The
Robert E. Gross
Collection
A Memorial to the Founder
of the
Lockheed Aircraft
Corporation

Business Administration Library
University of California
Los Angeles

Ada Sophia Rose

1886.

A

DESCRIPTION

OF

ENGLAND AND WALES.

CONTAINING

A particular ACCOUNT of each COUNTY,

WITH ITS

ANTIQUITIES,	SOILS,	TOWNS,
CURIOSITIES,	FOSSILS,	PALACES,
SITUATION,	CAVERNS,	SEATS,
FIGURE,	PLANTS and MINERALS,	CORPORATIONS,
EXTENT,	AGRICULTURE,	MARKETS,
CLIMATE,	CIVIL and ECCLESIASTICAL DIVISIONS,	FAIRS,
RIVERS,	CITIES,	MANUFACTURES,
LAKES,		TRADE,
MINERAL WATERS,		SIEGES,
		BATTLES,

AND THE

LIVES of the illuſtrious MEN each COUNTY has produced.

Embelliſhed with two hundred and forty COPPER PLATES,

OF

PALACES, CASTLES, CATHEDRALS;

THE

Ruins of ROMAN and SAXON BUILDINGS;

AND OF

ABBEYS, MONASTERIES, and other RELIGIOUS HOUSES.

Beſides a Variety of CUTS of

URNS, INSCRIPTIONS, and other ANTIQUITIES.

VOL. IV.

LONDON:

Printed for NEWBERY and CARNAN, No. 65, the North Side of St. Paul's Church-yard.

M DCC LXIX.

A DESCRIPTION OF ENGLAND AND WALES.

ESSEX.

THIS county received its name from its ſituation, to diſtinguiſh it from the country inhabited by the Weſt and South Saxons. They called it Eaſt Deaxa, and Eaſt Dexſcire, which were changed by the Normans into Exſſeſa. This county, in the time of the Romans, was inhabited by the Trinobantes, whom Cæſar repreſents as the moſt warlike people in the iſland. Cunobeline, who was their governor ſoon after Cæſar's invaſion, was the firſt who ſtamped the Britiſh coin after the Roman manner.

Of all the counties in England, there is none where antiquaries have taken more pains to trace out the Roman ways, but they ſeldom agree in their accounts. Malden and Colcheſter were certainly Roman towns; but authors are not agreed upon the military way that lead to them from Lon-

don. The Roman name of Malden is Camulodunum, which was a celebrated Roman colony; Colcheſter had the name of Colonia; Layton was the ancient Durolitum; and Dunmow, according to Horſley, was the villa Fauſtini of the Romans.

This is a large and populous county, bounded on the ſouth by the river Thames, which ſeparates it from Kent, on the weſt by Hertfordſhire and Middleſex; on the north by Cambridgeſhire and Suffolk; and on the eaſt by the German ocean. It is forty-ſeven miles in length from eaſt to weſt, forty-three from north to ſouth, and 150 in circumference; Chelmsford, which is nearly in the middle of the county, is ſituated twenty-eight miles north-eaſt of London.

The air of this county is generally eſteemed unhealthy, eſpecially to ſtrangers; yet in great part of the weſtern and northern diviſions, it is as good as in any other part of the iſland. Indeed many parts of it, particularly the hundreds of Rochford and Dengy, border upon the ſea and the Thames, and have a rotten, oozy ſoil; the country is likewiſe full of fens and marſhes, which producing noiſome and pernicious vapours, ſubject the inhabitants to agues that are very hard to cure, and thoſe other diſorders that ariſe from a moiſt and putrid atmoſphere.

It is ſaid that the farmers, in the marſhy parts of this county, drive a kind of trade in wives, by going into the inland parts to marry, and then bringing them home into the fens, where the change of air ſpeedily puts a period to their lives: nay, it is even ſaid, that ſome have boaſted of their having, by this means, obtained half a ſcore wives, with their fortunes; but this we hope is far from being true; for as the author of a modern work, intitled, England illuſtrated, very juſtly obſerves, upon this occaſion, "that he who marries a wife

"with

" with a view to deſtroy her, by carrying her into " a fen, and the hope of enriching himſelf by " ſucceſſive fortunes, is not leſs a murderer and a " robber, than he who deliberately cuts a throat, " that he may plunder a houſe; he is indeed guil- " ty of more complicated villainy, as he perpe- " trates it under the maſk of affection; and as it " can ſucceed only againſt thoſe who are ſuppoſed " to have an affection for him, and whom he is " under the moſt tender, and the moſt ſolemn " obligations to cheriſh and protect."

It is commonly obſerved of this county, that the ſoil is generally the beſt, where the air is worſt; for the fenny hundreds, bordering on the ſea and the Thames, abound with rich paſtures, and corn land; but in many of the inland parts, the ſoil is chiefly gravel and ſand; however, it conſiſts in other places of clay and loam, which produce excellent corn, and good paſtures; ſo that in general Eſſex may be called a rich plentiful county. Proviſions are almoſt always to be had here in profuſion, and there are great plenty of fat oxen and ſheep, brought up to London out of the marſhes, beſides great quantities of corn, ſent thither both by water and land carriage. There are here a great number of dairies, and the inhabitants are remarkable for their fattening of calves, whoſe fleſh is in great eſteem in London. Add to this, that the marſhes feed a multitude of excellent horſes.

The north-eaſt part of the county is remarkable for producing excellent ſaffron, a drug of great uſe in medicine; and in ſome of theſe parts, the ſoil is ſo rich, that after three crops of ſaffron, we are told it will yield good barley for twenty years together, without dunging, and other parts of Eſſex yield plenty of hops. The principal manure uſed in ſome part of this county is chalk,

which they mix with turf freſh dug, and farm-yard dung.

The rivers in this county are very numerous; for beſides the Thames, which waſhes its ſouthern borders, there are the Stour, the Lea, the Stort, the Coln, the Chelmar, and the Black Water. The Stour, which riſes in the north-weſt part of Eſſex, runs ſouth-eaſt, and ſeparating this county from Suffolk, falls into the German ocean at Harwich. The Lea riſes in the north-weſt part of the county, and running almoſt directly ſouth, ſeparates Eſſex from the counties of Hertford and Middleſex, and falls into the Thames at Blackwall. The Coln alſo riſes in the north weſt part of Eſſex, and running ſouth-eaſt to Halſted, runs parallel to the Stour, and paſſes by Colcheſter, where forming an angle, it takes its courſe ſouth-ſouth-eaſt, and falls into the German ocean. The Chelmar likewiſe riſes in the north-weſt part of Eſſex, and paſſes to Chelmsford, where it forms an angle, and running directly eaſt, receives the Blackwater, and falls into the German ocean near Malden. The Blackwater riſes within two or three miles of the ſource of the river Chelmar, and running nearly parallel to it, paſſes by Braintry, and falls into the Chelmar at Malden.

The ſea and rivers yield the inhabitants plenty of fiſh of all ſorts, as ſoals, plaice, flounders, pike, perch, maids, lobſters, eels, and great quantities of fine oyſters, of which thoſe of Colcheſter ſent to London in barrels are in the greateſt requeſt. Wallfleet oyſters were once in high eſteem, but they have not of late been brought to London in ſuch plenty as formerly. This county alſo abounds with wild fowl; and the inhabitants have decoys for ducks, which, in the winter ſeaſon, are of great advantage to the owners.

There

There are ſeveral mineral waters in this county, of which one is at Upminſter, eight miles eaſt of Barking. The water is bitter, and it will curdle with oil of tartar, but more ſtrongly with ſpirit of hartſhorn, and will not lather with ſoap. A ſolution of allum, cauſes it to let fall a large grumous ſediment, and the ſolution of copperas changes it to a dark dun colour. It appears to be a ſulphureous water, of a conſiderable ſtrength, and a gallon will yield 332 grains of ſediment, which is of a nauſeous bitter taſte. It is chiefly a calcarious nitre, mixed with a little natron and ſea-ſalt. The water is purgative and diuretic, abſorbs acidities, ſtrengthens the ſtomach, and checks vomiting.

Whitham water, when freſh, is perfectly clear, and has a very ſtrong chalybeate ſmell and taſte. It has a remarkable freſhneſs when juſt taken from the ſpring, which renders it agreeable to the taſte and ſtomach; but after it has ſtood a while, it loſes that quality, and depoſits a browniſh ſediment. A gallon, by evaporation, will yield thirty grains of ſediment, which will grow damp in a moiſt air. However, this water is of no uſe unleſs it be drank immediately at the ſpring, and then it is diuretic, and is good in hectic fevers, lowneſs of ſpirits, weakneſs of the nerves, and want of appetite.

At Tilbury, a village ſeated over-againſt Graveſend in Kent, is a mineral water that is ſomewhat of a ſtraw colour, and has a ſoft ſmooth taſte. With oil of tartar it will cauſe no immediate precipitation, though it will curdle with ſoap, but not with milk. A gallon will yield 180 grains of ſediment, of a yellowiſh brown colour, with a ſharp taſte, like that of a fixed alcali. A quart of this is a middling doſe; it generally paſſes off by urine and perſpiration. It warms the

blood, is good in lowneſs of ſpirits, and is a ſpecific in looſeneſſes. It alſo cures fluxes of blood, and indeed all other fluxes; and is particularly good in an acidity of the ſtomach, and for ſome kinds of ſcurvies.

This county likewiſe affords a petrefying ſpring, which is at the bottom of the cliff, between Beaconhill, and the town of Harwich. This water falling on a bluiſh clay, will, in time, turn it into ſtone. It is affirmed, that it will petrefy wood as well as clay; and a large piece of wood, thus petrefied, is preſerved in the repoſitory of the Royal Society; but we are to underſtand no more by this, than it encruſts the wood with a kind of ſpar, reſembling ſtone.

At the bottom of the above cliff there have been found, in a ſtratum of ſtone, a great variety of ſhells, both of the bivalve, and turbinated kinds; and, upon the ſhore, under the hill, is found that kind of ſtone, from which our copperas is prepared, and which the people call copperas-ſtone. In order to prepare copperas from theſe ſtones, they are mixed with earth, and diſpoſed into light beds above ground; where, being diſſolved by the rain and dew, the ſolution is received into trunks, that conduct it into a large leaden ciſtern, whence it is again conveyed into a leaden boiler; and, after boiling ſome time, is drawn off into coolers, where it ſhoots into cryſtals. Theſe ſtones are likewiſe found in ſome places on the coaſt of Kent, where there are works of the ſame kind, for making copperas.

The more uncommon herbs in this county are jagged ſea orrache, *Atriplex maritima laciniata*, found in Merſey Iſland, and Little Holland, on the ſea-ſhore.

The little hare's-ear, *Auricola leporis minima*, found in the marſhes near Malden.

Saffron,

Saffron, *Crocus ſativus verus autumnalis*, which is much cultivated near Walden, from thence called Saffron-Walden. This curious plant riſes from a bulbous root; and the uſual way of propagating it is by planting the bulbs, of which every year produces a new ſucceſſion, in trenches, at about five inches diſtance; they produce only leaves the firſt year; but in September or October of the following year they flower. It has narrow graſs-like leaves, that have a white line running along the middle: the ſtalk is ſhort and undivided, and bears on the top a purpliſh blue flower, deeply cut into ſix ſegments. In the middle of the flower ariſes, among the ſtamina, a whitiſh piſtil, divided at the top into three chives or fleſhy filaments, the lower part of which is ſlender and pale-coloured, the upper broader, of a deep orange-red, and very finely indented about the ſides: the flowers being gathered in a morning before ſun-riſe, and the chives which are the ſaffron, being picked out, are dried in ſieves by a gentle fire, or on a ſmall kiln made for that purpoſe, and then preſſed together into cakes. At the end of October, when the flowering ſeaſon is over, the bulbs are taken out of the ground, and hung up in a dry place, and in ſpring they are put into the earth again. The produce of this plant is ſo great, that though the quantity of ſaffron yielded by a ſingle flower is extremely ſmall, yet an acre of ground will produce eighty or a hundred weight of wet ſaffron, which will weigh twenty pounds when it has been dried. The ſaffron produced here, is greatly ſuperior to that brought from abroad; and may be diſtinguiſhed from it by its blades being broader. It ſhould be choſen freſh, not above a year old, in cloſe cakes, neither dry, nor yet very moiſt, tough and firm in tearing, of a high, fiery colour; and of the ſame co-

lour within, as on the outside. Saffron is a very elegant aromatic, and is particularly serviceable in disorders of the breast, in female obstructions, and hysteric depressions.

Marsh-Thread, *Conferva palustris*, growing in the fields, and chiefly in the marshes and ditches about Malden.

Millet Cyprus-grass, *Cyperus gramineus*, by Bocking river.

Mountain oat-grass, with a single spike, and reflected auns, *Erica maritima supina*, found on Bartlow hills.

Dittander, or *Pepperwort lapideum latifolium*, growing at Hey-bridge, near Malden.

Rough-codded chikling, *Lathyrus silequâ hirsutâ*, in the fields near Hockley and Raleigh.

The musk orchis, *Monorchis*, or *orchis odorata*, growing in Black-Notley.

Star-headed water plantain, *Plantago aquatica minor stellata*, growing in a pond at Rumford.

The small leaved lime or linden-tree, frequently found in the hedges all over the county.

Sea-holley, or eringo, *Eryngium*, whose roots, the inhabitants of Colchester, are famous for candying. It grows plentifully on the sandy shore near that town. This is a blueish, branched umbelliferous plant, with mallow-like, thick, prickly leaves: the flowers are white, and set in prickly heads, under which a number of little oblong leaves stand in the form of a star: the roots are slender, very long, with a few knots, browniſh on the outside, and white within; they have an agreeable sweetish taste, followed by a light, aromatic warmth and pungency. These roots are accounted aperient, diuretic, and aphrodisiac, but are seldom used, except in the form of a sweetmeat.

Almond-

Almond-leaved-willow, *Salix folio Amygdalino*, found in an oſier-ground near Notley.

The great rough violet, without ſcent, *Viola martia hirſata*, found near Braintree.

This county lies in the province of Canterbury and dioceſe of London. It is divided into twenty hundreds, and contains twenty-four market towns, but no city, 34,800 houſes, 208,800 inhabitants, and 415 pariſhes. It ſends eight members to parliament: two knights of the ſhire: two burgeſſes for Colcheſter, two for Harwich, and two for Malden.

In deſcribing the towns of this county, we ſhall enter the ſouth eaſtern road, and proceed northward, in that which extends to the iſle of Ely in Cambridgeſhire.

STRATFORD, or STRATFORD LONGTHORN, the firſt village in Eſſex next to London, is almoſt joined to Bow, and is in the pariſh of Weſtham. Here William of Montfichet built, in the year 1134 or 1135, an abbey for the monks of the Ciſtertian order, dedicated to the Virgin Mary and All Saints; which being in a low ſituation among the marſhes, the religious were obliged to remove to a cell called Burghſted near Billericay, to avoid the floods; but by the care of one of the king Richards, the damages were repaired, and the monks brought back. This abbey was endowed at the diſſolution with 511 l. 16 s. a year, and was given, together with the church, to Sir Peter Meautys of Weſtham. Ralph de Stratford, biſhop of London, in the reign of Edward the Third, obtained a licence of that prince to found and endow a college or large chantry of ſecular prieſts to be governed by a provoſt, within the chapel of St. Paul, in his caſtle here. This pariſh has of late years greatly encreaſed in buildings and inhabitants, every vacancy being,

in a manner, filled up by the addition of two ſmall new built hamlets, if they may be thus called, on the foreſt ſide of the town; theſe are Maryland-point, and the gravel pits, one facing the road to Epping, and the other that to Chelmsford.

LOW LEYTON, or LEIGHTON, a village a mile and an half north of Stratford, is a ſtraggling place, where ſome authors, affirm there has been a Roman ſtation, becauſe a large Roman urn was found in the church yard; and on the ſouth ſide of a lane called Blind-lane, between this town and Stratford Bow, there are frequently dug up ſeveral of theſe urns of different ſizes and figures. The pariſh church was anciently given to the abbot and convent of Stratford Langhorn; but after the ſuppreſſion it was granted to Thomas Wrothſley, lord chancellor of England, from whence it has paſſed into other hands. Near the church is an alms-houſe, built by John Smith, a merchant of London, for eight poor people; who endowed it with twenty pounds a year, for their maintenance.

In this pariſh are ſeveral handſome ſeats belonging to wealthy citizens, and other gentlemen, particularly Goring-houſe, alſo called the Foreſt-houſe, which is loftily ſituated fronting the foreſt. It once belonged to the abbot of Waltham, and afterwards came to the Gorings, earls of Norwich; after which it was in the poſſeſſion of Sir Gilbert Heathcote, whoſe deſcendants ſold it to Mr. Boſanquet. The manor houſe of Leighton has a fine proſpect over the marſh and river, toward Hackney; and has been greatly improved with additional buildings, and handſome gardens. The beautiful ſeat of the late Sir Fiſher Tench, Bart. is a modern ſtructure, adorned with large and delightful gardens, with plantations, walks, groves,

groves, mounts, and canals, ſtocked with fiſh and fowl. Beſides theſe there are ſeveral others. This pariſh is waſhed on one ſide by the river Lea or Lee, from which the village obtains its name, and riſes in a gentle aſcent for about two miles from the river to Waltham Foreſt, on which ſide lies one ward of the pariſh, called Leighton-ſtone, in a pleaſant and healthy ſituation, where the number of inhabitants, being greatly encreaſed, a chapel of eaſe has been lately built for their convenience. The pariſh church is a ſmall building, conſiſting of a chancel and two iſles, and is dedicated to the Virgin Mary.

In this pariſh was born Sir Thomas Roe, or Rowe, a very able ſtateſman, and ambaſſador to ſeveral foreign courts. In 1593, he was admitted into Magdalen college in Oxford; but before he had finiſhed his ſtudies, he was taken from the univerſity: and, after ſome time ſpent in one of the inns of court, or in France, or both, he became eſquire of the body to queen Elizabeth, about the latter end of her reign. In 1604, he received the honour of knighthood from king James the Firſt; and, ſoon after, was ſent, by Henry prince of Wales, to make diſcoveries in America, where he ſailed up the great river of the Amazons above three hundred miles. He afterwards acted as ambaſſador to the Great Mogul, as alſo at ſeveral courts in Europe; upon his return from which, he was appointed by king Charles the Firſt, chancellor of the garter, and a member of the privy council. He died November 6, 1644, and was privately buried in Woodford church in Eſſex. During his reſidence in the eaſt, he made a large collection of valuable manuſcripts, in the Greek and Oriental languages, which he preſented to the Bodleian library. He likewiſe kept a journal of all his embaſſies and nego-

negociations, several extracts from which are to be found in Purchas's Pilgrim, and Churchill's voyages. A volume of them was printed in 1740, but the greater part still remains unpublished.

WALTHAMSTOW, is a village contiguous to Low-Leyton, and situated on the river Lea. Here are three manors, Highhall, or Walthamstow Tony, Lowhall, or Walthamstow Francis, which was the manor of the late J. Coniers, Esq; and the manor of the rectory, which once belonged to the prior and canons of the Holy Trinity, otherwise called Christ-church, near Aldgate, London. The church of Walthamstow, dedicated to the Blessed Virgin, is a large edifice, situated upon a hill, and consists of three isles; that on the north side, built by Sir George Monnox, knight, lord mayor of London, in the reign of Henry the Eighth, is called Monnox's isle; that on the south side, bears the name of Thorne's isle, from a citizen and merchant-taylor of London, of that name, who was probably at the expence of building it. In this church are a considerable number of monuments, particularly a piece of marble over the body of Dr. Pierce, bishop of Bath and Wells; and a monument, erected to the memory of Sir Thomas Stanley, knight, second son to the earl of Derby. Here also Sir George Monnox, about the year 1515, built an hospital for thirteen poor people. In this parish are several ancient seats and handsome houses, belonging to persons of distinction, the most remarkable of which was that of Higham-hall, pleasantly situated upon Higham hill, a rising ground, about half a mile north of Clay-street, just above the river Lea, affording a fine view of the counties of Hertfordshire and Middlesex. It has been a magnificent and spacious structure; and formerly, when the lords resided upon their royalties,

alties, no place could be more admirably ſituated than this manſion, which afforded a delightful and extenſive proſpect of the whole extent of its juriſdiction. But hardly any traces of its ancient grandeur are now remaining.

WANSTED is a village at a ſmall diſtance from Walthamſtow, on the eaſt ſide of the road. In this place, and its neighbourhood, are ſeveral fine ſeats of the nobility, gentry, and wealthy citizens; but their luſtre is greatly eclipſed by Wanſtead-houſe, which, in the reign of queen Elizabeth, was the ſeat of Robert, earl of Leiceſter, but is now the magnificent ſeat of the earl Tilney. Preparations were made for this noble ſeat by Sir Joſiah Child, his lordſhip's grandfather, who added, to the advantage of a fine ſituation, a multitude of avenues and viſtas leading up to the ſpot where the old houſe ſtood. The late lord, before he was ennobled, laid out the moſt ſpacious gardens that are to be ſeen in this part of England. The green-houſe is a ſuperb building, furniſhed with ſtoves, and artificial places for heat, from an apartment which has a bagnio and other conveniences, both for uſe and pleaſure. The houſe was built by the late earl of Tilney, and deſigned by colonel Campbell, and is one of the nobleſt ſtructures, not only near London, but in the kingdom. It was built ſince theſe gardens were finiſhed, and is a magnificent edifice, 260 feet in length, and ſeventy in depth, fronted with Portland-ſtone. It conſiſts of two ſtories, the ſtate and ground-ſtory. This latter is the baſement, into which you enter by a door in the middle, underneath the grand entrance, which is a noble portico of ſix Corinthian columns, ſupporting a pediment, in which are the lord Tilney's arms. To this you aſcend by a flight of ſteps, on each ſide, and paſs into a magnificent hall, fifty-three feet long by

by forty-five feet broad, richly adorned with painting and ſculpture; particularly two antique ſtatues on marble pedeſtals, Livia and Domitian: from thence you paſs into the other ſtate-rooms, which are ſuitably furniſhed with pictures, gilding, velvet, and other rich hangings. Before the houſe, which has no wings, is an octangular baſon, which ſeems equal to the length of the front. On each ſide, as you approach the houſe, are two marble ſtatues of Hercules and Venus, with obeliſks and vaſes placed alternately. The garden front has no portico, but a pediment with a baſs relief, ſupported by ſix three-quarter columns. From the fore-front of this noble ſtructure extends a viſta, that reaches to the great road at Leighton-ſtone; and from the back-front, facing the garden, is an eaſy deſcent, that leads to the terrace, and affords a moſt beautiful proſpect of the river Roding, which is formed into canals; and beyond it, the walks and wilderneſſes extend to a great diſtance, riſing up the hill; ſo that the ſight is loſt in the woods, and the whole country, as far as the eye can reach, appears one continued garden.

The pariſh church of this village has been lately rebuilt, chiefly by the liberality of the lord viſcount Caſtlemain; and in the chancel is a ſuperb monument for Sir Joſiah Child, whoſe ſtatue, in white marble, ſtands pointing downward to the inſcription. Underneath lies the figure of Bernard, his ſecond ſon; and on each ſide ſits a woman veiled, one leaning her head upon her hand, and the other wringing her hands. There are alſo ſeveral boys in mournful poſtures, and one expreſſing the vanity of life, by blowing up a bubble.

WALTHAM-ABBEY is ſituated twelve miles from London, a little to the eaſt of the road on the eaſt ſide of the river Lea, which, here dividing, encloſes ſome iſlands, with fine meadows, and

and parts this village from Waltham-croſs in Middleſex. Here Harold, ſon to earl Godwin, to whom Edward the Confeſſor gave the town, in the year 1062, founded a monaſtery for a dean and eleven ſecular canons; and endowed it with this manor and ſix others; but they were in 1177, changed by king Henry II. into an abbot, and regulars of the order of St. Auſtin, and their number encreaſed to twenty-four. It was built in honour of the holy croſs, and from this abbey the town took its name. Its abbots were mitred, and had the twentieth place in parliament; they lived in a moſt ſplendid, but hoſpitable manner, and were frequently viſited by Henry the Third, when he was reduced, and obliged to carry his family about for a dinner. This abbey was valued at the diſſolution at 900 l. a year by Dugdale; but at 1079 l. by Speed. It was given by king Hen. VIII. to Sir Anthony Denny, his groom of the ſtole, whoſe grandſon afterwards employing workmen to convert it into a ſeat for himſelf, they are ſaid to have dug up the corpſe of Harold, which, after his being ſlain in battle againſt William the Conqueror, was interred in the abbey. The town has a market on Tueſdays, and two fairs; namely, on May 14, and September 25 and 26, for horſes, hogs, and cows.

Epping, the next place worthy of notice on this road, is ſeated on the ſide of a foreſt, from this town, called Epping-Foreſt, which, on account of its great extent, was anciently termed the Foreſt of Eſſex. The markets, which are kept on Thurſdays for cattle, and on Fridays for proviſions, are kept in Epping-ſtreet, about a mile and a half from the church. This is a ſmall delightful place, and has two fairs, held on Whitſon-Tueſday, and October 13, for horſes, cows, and ſheep. This town is remarkable for ſending the

the moſt excellent freſh butter to London. There are ſeveral fine ſeats in Epping-Foreſt, which is a royal-chace.

HARLOW is ſituated ſeven miles to the north of Epping, and anciently belonged to the abbot and monks of St. Edmonſbury in Suffolk. At the time of the diſſolution of religious houſes, the manor and rectory came to the crown, but has ſince paſſed into other hands. It had formerly a market, which is now diſuſed, but has ſtill three fairs; namely, on Whitſon-Monday, the 9th of September, and the 28th of November, for horſes and horned cattle.

HATFIELD received its name from the Saxon word hat, which ſignifies hot, probably from its ſtanding on a hot, ſandy ſoil, and is alſo called Hatfield Broadoak, from a ſpreading oak that grew in it; and King's Hatfield, from its being held by knights ſervice of the king; a ſecond name being neceſſary to diſtinguiſh it from the other towns named Hatfield. This town had formerly a priory for black Monks of the Benedictine order, founded by Alberic de Vere, the firſt earl of Oxford, and great chamberlain of England, who endowed it with all the tithes of his own demeſnes in this town. At the diſſolution, the revenues of this priory were valued at 122l. a year by Dugdale; but at 157l. by Speed. This town is now but a ſmall place, tho' it has a market on Saturdays, and a fair on the 5th of Auguſt, for lambs.

About ſeven miles north of Hatfield Broadoak, is STANSTEAD, or STEINSTEAD MONTFITCHET; ſo called, as ſome ſuppoſe, from its being ſeated on gravelly ſoil; but more probably becauſe it is ſeated on a Roman road. Montfitchet was added thereto, becauſe there was an ancient ſeat or caſtle, raiſed upon a little artificial mount, called Montfixus,

fixus, which ſignifies a mount raiſed on firm ground. This was erected by one Gilbert, and hence he was called Gilbert de Monteſixo. Some relicks of this caſtle are ſtill remaining about a quarter of a mile from the church. There is one fair kept here on the 12th of May, for horſes and cattle.

NEWPORT is a pretty little place, eight miles north of Stanſtead, and three miles ſouth of Walden. It is ſeated on the river Grant, which runs into Cambridgeſhire, and has two fairs, one on Eaſter-Monday, and the other on the 17th of November, for horſes.

WALDEN, anciently called Waleduna, then Waldenburgh, afterwards Chipping-Walden, and now Saffron-Walden, from the neighbouring fields, in which Saffron is cultivated, is ſeated near the borders of Cambridgeſhire, about 20 miles to the north of Hatfield Broadoak, twenty-ſeven north-north-weſt of Chelmsford, and forty-two north by eaſt of London. It was incorporated by king Edward the Sixth, and is a large, well built town, governed by a mayor, and twenty-four aldermen; out of whom are annually choſen a treaſurer or chief officer, and two chamberlains, his aſſiſtants. Here is a good church, an alms-houſe, well endowed, and a free-ſchool on a royal foundation. It has a market on Saturdays, well ſupplied with all ſorts of proviſions; and two fairs, namely, on Midlent-Saturday, for horſes, and the other on the firſt of November, for cows.

A priory of Benedictine monks was founded in this town, in 1136, by Jeffry Mandevil, the firſt earl of Eſſex, after the conqueſt; and dedicated to St. Mary and St. James. In the reign of king Richard the Firſt it became an abbey, and was valued

valued at the diſſolution, at 372 l. 18 s. a year by Dugdale; but at 406 l. by Speed.

At AUDLEY-END, about a mile ſouth of this town, is a ſeat belonging to the earl of Suffolk, built out of the ruins of the above abbey, by Thomas Lord Audley, who was created earl of Suffolk, by king James the Firſt, to whom he was treaſurer. The earl intended it as a palace for his majeſty, and had no ſooner finiſhed it, than he made him a preſent of it; but the king, on ſeeing its vaſt extent and magnificence, ſaid, it would ſuit very well a lord treaſurer, but was too much for a king. It therefore remained in the poſſeſſion of the earls of Suffolk during that, and the ſucceeding reign, but was afterwards purchaſed by king Charles the Second, who not being able to pay for it, mortgaged the hearth-tax to the earl of Suffolk, as a ſecurity for the money. This tax being taken off, ſoon after the revolution, and the ſtate not being in a condition to pay the ſum for which it had been pledged, the houſe became again in the poſſeſſion of the family. It was at that time the largeſt royal palace in the kingdom; but ſoon after, Henry earl of Suffolk pulled down a great part of it, and left only one court ſtanding, which is, however, ſtill worthy of the name of a palace.

Sir Thomas Smith, a learned writer, and ſecretary of ſtate to king Edward the Sixth, and queen Elizabeth, was born at Saffron-Walden, on March 28, 1512. He had his education in the univerſity of Cambridge, where, after being choſen fellow of his college, he was appointed to read the public Greek lecture, and, in conjunction with Sir John Cheke, introduced a new way of pronouncing that language. In 1536, he was elected univerſity orator, which place he filled with great applauſe. About three years after he

ſet

ſet out on his travels, and ſtudied for ſome time in the univerſities of France and Italy. Returning home in 1542, he was appointed regius profeſſor of civil law at Cambridge, where he wrote an Eſſay concerning the correct writing of the Engliſh tongue, and the true ſounding of the words and letters. Upon the acceſſion of king Edward the Sixth, he was taken into the family of the duke of Somerſet, uncle and governor to that prince, who appointed Dr. Smith maſter of requeſts, provoſt of Eaton-college, ſteward of the ſtanneries, and dean of Carliſle. In 1548, he was conſtituted ſecretary of ſtate, and advanced to the honour of knighthood. In the reign of queen Mary he was ſtript of all his employments; but, upon the acceſſion of queen Elizabeth, he was again called to court, and employed in ſettling the affairs of the nation. In 1561, he was ſent ambaſſador to France, where he reſided ſome years, and where, it is generally thought, he finiſhed his treatiſe of *The commonwealth of England*. He afterwards obtained a large grant of lands, known by the name of the *Ardes*, in the province of Ulſter in Ireland, where he planted a colony; and he was likewiſe concerned in a whimſical project of tranſmuting iron into copper, which put him to a great deal of expence. He died, however, in very good circumſtances, Auguſt the 12th, 1577, in the 63d year of his age. Beſides the works above-mentioned, he wrote four orations concerning the queen's marriage, and ſeveral other tracts.

CHESTERFORD-MAGNA is a village four miles north-weſt of Walden, and borders upon Cambridgeſhire. Some years ago were diſcovered here the ruins of a Roman city. The foundations of the walls take in a compaſs of about fifty acres; and there are ſtill viſible the foundations of a Ro-

a Roman temple, and a veſſel of ſtone adorned with ſculpture. It was lying neglected in the mill at Cheſterford, and is hollow. Mr. Horſley imagines it to be ſepulchral, and that it has contained three urns, anſwerable to the three buſts on the outſide; but as it never had any inſcription, it is impoſſible to know who the deceaſed perſons were. This village has one fair, on July 5, for horſes.

Four miles north-eaſt of Walden is ASHDON, or ASHTON; near which there are four great barrows, or piramidal hills, commonly called Bartlow hills, becauſe they are near that village, though they are really in Aſhdon pariſh. The laſt battle between Edmund Ironſide, and Canute the Dane, before the diviſion of the kingdom, was fought near theſe hills; when Canute came off conqueror, and in memory of this victory, cauſed theſe hills to be thrown up, and made them monuments for ſuch as were ſlain in battle. As a proof of this, when two of them were ſearched into, there were found three ſtone coffins, with abundance of pieces of bones in them, and many iron chains, like the bits of horſes bridles.

We ſhall now return to Saffron-Walden, and proceed from thence in the road, which extends ſouth-eaſt to THACKSTEAD, or THAXTED, which was anciently called Tachſteda, and ſometimes Taſted. It is ſeated on the river Chelmer, ſeven miles ſouth-eaſt of Walden, ſeventeen miles north by weſt of Chelmsford, and forty-two north-north-eaſt of London. It is three quarters of a mile in length, and has a regular and ſtately church. It was incorporated by Philip and Mary; and the corporation conſiſts of a mayor, who is of the quorum within the liberty and borough; a recorder, three bailiffs, and about twenty chief burgeſſes. They have a common ſeal, but no arms.

The

The town has a market on Fridays, and two fairs, one on the 27th of May, and the other on the 10th of Auguſt, for horſes.

Samuel Purchas, a learned Engliſh divine, in the ſeventeenth century, and compiler of the valuable collection of voyages, which bears his name, was born here in the year 1577. After finiſhing his ſtudies at Cambridge, he was inſtituted in 1604, to the vicarage of Eaſt-wood, in his native county; but leaving that cure, he removed to London, where he publiſhed the firſt volume of his voyages in 1613, and the other four in 1625. About the year 1614, he was collated to the rectory of St. Martin's, Ludgate, in London; and was likewiſe appointed chaplain to George Abbot, archbiſhop of Canterbury. Beſides his voyages, he publiſhed a book, intitled, *Purchas his Pilgrim*, and another, called *The Hiſtory of Man*. He died about the year 1628.

Seven miles ſouth of Thackſtead is DUNMOW, alſo called DUNMOW MAGNA, or GREAT DUNMOW, to diſtinguiſh it from a village in its neighbourhood, known by the name of Dunmow Parva, or Little Dunmow. The name of Dunmow, is ſuppoſed to have been formed of two Britiſh words, Dunum, a gravelly hill, and Magus, a town, which anſwers exactly to its ſituation on the top of a pretty ſteep, gravelly hill, that renders the town extremely pleaſant. This was the Villa Fauſtini of the Romans, as a proof of which the old Roman way is very direct, and called by the inhabitants the Street. Its remains are ſtill viſible in ſeveral places; and beſides, we find in an old perambulation of the foreſt in king John's time, that it was ſaid to be bounded on the north by the Street, leading from Dunmow to Colcheſter. The church ſtands near a mile from the town, which is governed by twelve headboroughs, and two bailiffs

liffs or chief officers, choſen out of them yearly. The market is on Saturdays, and there are two fairs, on May 6, and November 8, for cattle.

At Dunmow Parva, about two miles ſouth-eaſt of the former, is a priory of canons regular of the Auguſtine order, which was thus founded; Juga Baynard, widow of Ralph Baynard, lord of this town, founded a church here dedicated to the Virgin Mary, and deſigned it for nuns; but Geoffrey Baynard, ſon and heir of the ſaid Juga, in the year 1106, with the conſent of Anſelm, archbiſhop of Canterbury, placed canons there, and became their patron. In this priory a cuſtom was inſtituted by Robert, earl of Clare, or ſome of his ſucceſſors, that he that does not repent of his marriage, either ſleeping or waking, in a year and a day, nor has had any difference with his wife, nor has made any nuptial tranſgreſſion within that time, and will take his oath of the ſame, before the prior or convent, and the whole town, ſhall have a gammon of bacon delivered to him with great ſolemnity. There are two or three upon record, who have received this bacon, and it is ſaid the cuſtom ſtill goes along with the manor, and that ſome have lately received it. This priory was valued, at the diſſolution, at 150 l. a year, by Dugdale; but at 173 l. by Speed.

To the ſouth of this town are ſeveral villages of the name of RODING, which take their name from the river that paſſes near them: ſome ſay there are nine, which may be true, though they form but eight diſtinct pariſhes, and they have each a name added to Roding, to diſtinguiſh them from each other.

John Thurloe, ſecretary of ſtate to the protector, Oliver Cromwell, was the ſon of the reverend Mr. Thomas Thurloe, rector of Abbots Roding; and was born at that place in the year 1616.

1616. Being bred to the law, which he ſtudied with great diligence, he ſoon became eminent in that honourable profeſſion; and was appointed one of the ſecretaries to the parliamentary commiſſioners, at the treaty of Uxbridge, in 1645. In 1647 he was admitted of Lincoln's-inn; and in the courſe of the ſame year, obtained the poſt of receiver, or clerk of the curſitor's fines; a place worth about 350 l. per annum. In 1652 he was conſtituted ſecretary to the council of ſtate; and, upon Oliver Cromwell's aſſuming the protectorſhip, he was named ſecretary of ſtate under that uſurper. He ſerved Oliver and his ſon with great fidelity; and defeated ſeveral deſigns that were formed againſt the life of the former. He concurred, however, in the reſtoration; and though ſtrictly examined by the parliament, and even accuſed of high treaſon, no criminal charge could be made out againſt him. He was often invited by Charles the Second, to engage again in the adminiſtration of public affairs; but this offer, however ſtrongly urged, he always declined, though with many expreſſions of gratitude. The remaining part of his life he ſpent at Great Milton in Oxfordſhire. Dying ſuddenly, February 21, 1678, at his chambers in Lincoln's-inn, he was interred under the chapel there, with a very modeſt inſcription. His *State Papers*, which were afterwards publiſhed, are well known.

Eighteen miles ſouth-weſt of Dunmow, and twelve miles weſt of Chelmsford, is CHIPPING-ONGAR, ſo called from the Saxon word Cepan, which ſignifies to buy and ſell, it being a very ancient market-town. Here Richard Lucy, who was protector of England, while king Henry the Second was in Normandy, erected a caſtle upon an artificial mount of great height, and ſurrounded it with a large mote and other fortifications,

the greateſt part of which is ſtill to be ſeen. It was much decayed in the reign of queen Elizabeth, on which account James Morrice, lord of the manor, pulled it down, and erected a handſome ſtrong brick building in its room; which, on account of its lofty ſituation and pleaſant walks, became one of the fineſt ſeats in the county. The town has two charity-ſchools, one for twenty-ſix boys, and the other for twelve girls. It has a market on Saturdays, and a fair on the 30th of September, for ſmall ware.

About three miles to the north-eaſt of Chipping-Ongar, is the village of NORTON MANDEVILLE, where the church has only the revenue of 6 l. a year, and the duty is performed but once a month. This church, by being thus deſerted, is ſo full of damps, that it endangers the lives of the congregation, which indeed ſeldom exceed ſix or ſeven, beſides the miniſter and clerk.

From Chipping-Ongar the road runs thirteen miles ſouthward to RUMFORD, a noted town on the road from London to Chelmsford, from which it is twelve miles diſtant. It is governed by a bailiff and wardens, who, though they are not a corporation, yet, by an ancient patent, have a power to keep a court every week, in which the inhabitants, ſojourners and traders in the markets, may, on every Thurſday, implead the guilty of treaſons, felonies, debts, and actions of treſpaſs, before the bailiff and wardens, who have authority to hear, determine, and execute the laws upon offenders, according to their deſerts. However, we do not find that this is ever done, eſpecially in capital caſes. It has two markets, that on Tueſdays is for hogs, calves, and other cattle; and that on Wedneſdays for corn; and it has a fair on June 24, for horned cattle.

Near

Near this town is a famous ſtructure called Giddy-hall, which is a great ſquare building, erected by Sir Thomas Cooke, formerly lord mayor of London.

The village of HORNCHURCH is two miles ſouth-eaſt of Rumford, and has a very large pariſh, containing ſeven wards. According to tradition, it was anciently called Whorechurch, from its being built by a lewd woman, by way of atonement for her ſins; but a certain king diſliking the name, cauſed a large pair of leaden horns to be faſtened to the eaſt-end of the church, from which it obtained its preſent name.

Having thus viſited the weſtern part of the county, we ſhall take the ſouthern road, and proceed eaſtward from Stratford to BARKING, the neareſt market town in this county to London, from which it is only ten miles diſtant. It is ſo called from a ſtream of the ſame name, on which it is ſituated, near a creek, where the Barking falls into the river Roding, about two miles before its confluence with the Thames. The town is of conſiderable extent, and chiefly inhabited by fiſhermen, whoſe boats, called ſmacks, lie at the mouth of the river in the Thames, from whence their fiſh is ſent up in boats to Billingſgate. The pariſh has been ſo much enlarged by lands recovered from the Thames, and the river Roding, that the ſmall tythes are computed at above 600 l. a year. It has a church, and two chapels of eaſe; one at Ilford, and the other on the ſide of Epping-Foreſt. In this town was anciently a Benedictine nunnery, ſaid to be the oldeſt and richeſt in England. It was founded by Erkenwald, ſon of Offa, king of the Eaſt-Angles, about the year 675, and dedicated to the Virgin Mary and St. Ethelburgha; the firſt abbeſs was ſiſter to the founder. In the year 870 the Danes deſtroyed

this monaſtery with many others; but it was afterwards rebuilt, and at the diſſolution was valued at 862 l. a year, by Dugdale, and at 1048 l. by Speed. Adelicia, an abbeſs of this convent, about the year 1190, founded here, upon the road to London, an hoſpital, dedicated to the Virgin Mary, for the leprous tenants or ſervants of the convent, which conſiſted of two maſters, thirteen brethren lepers, two chaplains, and a clerk. This hoſpital was valued, at the diſſolution, at 16 l. 13 s. clear, per annum. Barking has a market on Saturdays, and a fair on the 22d of October, for horſes.

About four miles to the eaſt of Barking, is the village of DAGENHAM, near which, about fifty years ago, the river Thames broke in, and laid near 5000 acres of land under water, at a place called Dagenham-Breach; but after ten years inundation, and ſome fruitleſs attempts to drain the land, and reduce the water to its former channel, it was happily effected by captain Perry, who had been employed ſeveral years by Peter the Great, Czar of Muſcovy, in his works at Veronitza, on the river Don.

Twelve miles ſouth-eaſt of Dagenham is GRAYS, by ſome called GRAYS THURROCK, a village ſeated on the river Thames, which has one fair on the 23d of May, for cattle and hardware.

Four miles to the ſouth-eaſt is WEST TILBURY, where there is a fort cloſe to the river Thames, oppoſite to the Blockhouſe at Graveſend in Kent. This is a regular fortification planned by Sir Martin Beckman, chief engineer to king Charles the Second, and kept conſtantly garriſoned. The eſplanade is very large, and the baſtions, which are faced with brick, are the largeſt in England. It has two motes or ditches, one within the other; the innermoſt is 180 feet broad: it has likewiſe a good

a good counterſcrap, and covered way, marked out with ravelins and tenailles, with a noble gate, called the Watergate, in the middle. Before the curtain is a platform, on which are mounted above 100 guns, from twenty-four to forty-ſix pounders, beſides ſmaller pieces, which are planted between thoſe mounted on the baſtions and curtain.

At EAST TILBURY, which is a little town on the bank of the Thames, at a ſmall diſtance from Weſt Tilbury, is a chalky cliff, in which are ſeveral ſpacious caverns, about twelve feet in height, and growing narrower to the top. Theſe are well lined with ſtone.

From hence a road extends twelve miles northward to BILLERICAY, a ſmall town, that has a market on Tueſdays, and two fairs, the firſt on the 22d of July, for horſes; and the other on the 7th of October, for cattle in general. This road is a diſgrace to the county: it being ſo narrow, that two carriages cannot paſs by each other; the ruts are of an incredible depth, and it is almoſt every where overgrown with trees, ſo as to be impervious to the ſun.

Near Horndon, on the above road, is a very high hill, from the ſummit of which the moſt aſtoniſhing proſpect breaks almoſt at once upon one of the dark lanes. Such a prodigious valley, every where painted with the fineſt verdure, and interſected with numberleſs hedges and woods, appears beneath you, that it is paſt deſcription; the Thames winding through, full of ſhips, and bounded by the hills of Kent. Nothing, ſays an ingenious author, can exceed this amazing proſpect, unleſs it be that which Hannibal exhibited to his diſconſolate troops, when he bad them behold the glories of the Italian plains.

Returning back towards Tilbury, we ſhall proceed along the road, which runs north-weſt, and paſſes by CANVY Iſland, which is encompaſſed by the Thames, and is about five miles in length, it lies low, and is ſometimes overflowed by the tide. Upon it is held a fair on the 25th of June, for toys.

The road now paſſes by LEIGH, a town ſeated by the Thames, five miles ſouth by eaſt of Raleigh. It is much frequented by hoys, and other ſmall craft, and is likewiſe a road for ſhips. It has a fair on the ſecond Tueſday in May, for toys.

About two miles ſouth-eaſt of Leigh is PRITTLEWELL. This village was formerly famous for a priory founded by Robert de Eſſex, called Robert Fitz-Swale, becauſe he was the ſon of Swenus of Eſſex. It was dedicated to the Virgin Mary, and was for Cluniac monks. He endowed it with the tithes of ſeveral pariſhes, and the prior was to pay yearly, on the feaſt of St. Pancras, to the prior of Lewes abbey, a mark of ſilver as an acknowledgment. It was valued, at the diſſolution, at 155 l. a year, by Dugdale, but by Speed, at 194 l. This village has a fair on the 15th of July, for toys.

From hence the road leads to FOULNESS, an iſland in the ſouth-eaſt part of the county. It was formerly ſubject to frequent inundations, but has of late been drained in the manner performed by the Dutch; and the land now produces corn and paſture; however, notwithſtanding all the care that has been taken, the ſea, at very high tides, will ſometimes break in, and drown many of the cattle. The paſſage into it is at low water, and on horſeback, inſomuch that many, either by negligence or being in liquor, have been overtaken by the tide, and drowned. A fair is held upon this iſland on the 10th of July, for toys.

toys. Near it are several other small islands, which are not worth mentioning.

We shall now turn back to the westward, taking the road which lies a little to the north of that, by which we have crossed the most southern part of the county. The first town we come to is ROCHFORD, which is four miles east of Raleigh, and forty east by south of London. It is seated on a small stream that falls into a river called the Crowch, in an unhealthful situation. It has an alms-house, founded and endowed by lord Rich: to the statutes of this alms-house, six other houses are subject, built by the earl of Warwick, for five men, and one woman, who receive each of them three shillings and six-pence a week, a gown at Christmas, of the value of a guinea, and two loads of wood every year, out of the earl's woods. Rochford has a market on Thursdays, and two fairs, namely, on Easter-Tuesday, for toys, and the Wednesday after; the 29th of September, for wholesale taylors, glovers and toys.

Near this town is an eminence called KINGS-HILL, where the lord of the honour of Raleigh holds a court, on the Wednesday morning after Michaelmas, at cock-crowing. This is called Lawless-Court; the steward and suitors are obliged to whisper to each other, and are not allowed either fire or candle; a piece of coal supplies the place of pen and ink; and he who owes service to the court, and does not attend, forfeits double his rent for every hour. Camden observes, that this attendance was imposed on the tenants as a punishment for their having met, at that unseasonable time, in a conspiracy against their lord.

Eleven miles north-east of Rochford is BURNHAM, which is situated on the river Crouch, five miles west of the sea. This is a place of some trade, it sending several small vessels with commodities

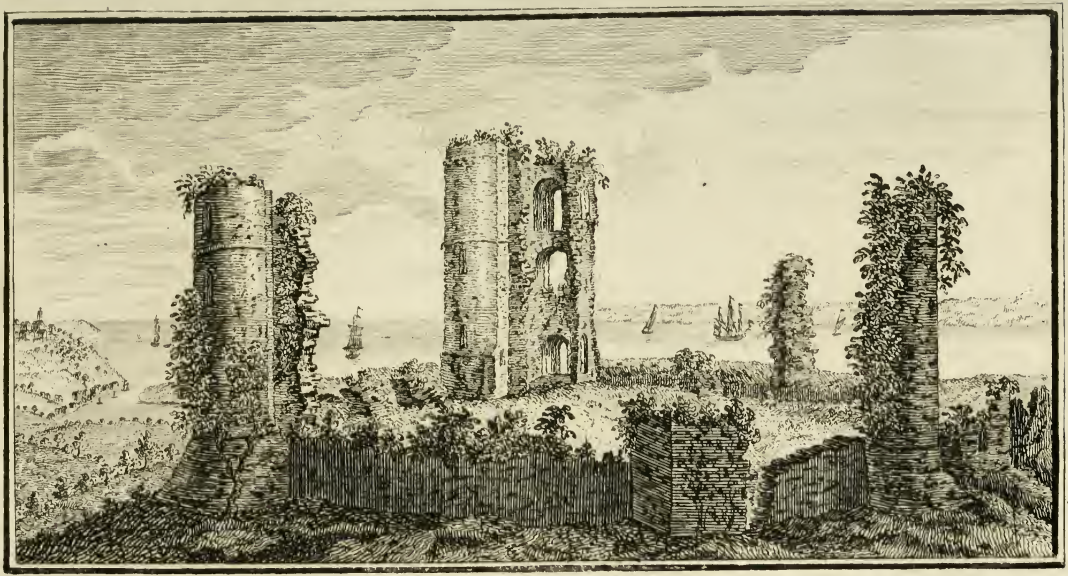
to London. It has two fairs, viz. on April 25, and September 4, for toys.

RALEIGH, or RAYLEIGH, is an ancient but ſmall town, about ſeven miles weſt of Rochford, thirteen miles ſouth-ſouth-eaſt of Chelmsford, and thirty-ſix eaſt by ſouth of London. It has a court-leet and court-baron, with many other privileges, but is greatly decayed, and a number of the buildings are gone to ruin; it has, however, one broad handſome ſtreet, and a market on Saturdays, with a fair on Trinity-Monday, for horſes and toys. Swanus, earl of Eſſex, built a caſtle here for his own reſidence, but it has been long ſince demoliſhed.

HADLEIGH is a village two miles ſouth of Raleigh, where was a caſtle built by Hubert de Burgh, in the reign of king Henry the Third. In proceſs of time it came to Thomas of Woodſtock, duke of Glouceſter, who is ſaid to have been ſecretly ſmothered at Calais with pillows, in the year 1397. Afterwards it came to Edmund of Langley, earl of Cambridge, and duke of York, brother to the above Thomas of Woodſtock, duke of Glouceſter. The preſent poſſeſſor is Sir Francis St. John, Bart. It is now demoliſhed, except three or four lofty ruins, which ſhew it was formerly a magnificent ſtructure, and of which we have given a particular view for the ſatisfaction of the curious reader. In this village a fair is held on the 24th of June, for toys.

From Raleigh one road extends northward to Chelmsford, and another weſtward through Billericay, which is only a chapelry to a pariſh called Great Burſted, and has nothing worthy of notice; and from thence it enters the London road to Harwich, a little to the north of Brentwood.

BRENTWOOD, or BURNTWOOD, is ten miles weſt of Raleigh, and eighteen north-eaſt of London.



The North View of Hadleigh Caſtle, *in the County of* Eſsex.

don. It is only a hamlet, or diviſion of a pariſh, called Southwold Cum Brent, but has good inns, and is a populous place. The county aſſizes have been often held here, and horſe-races are frequently held on a neighbouring plain, called Parſlow Wood common. It has a market on Thurſdays, and a fair on the 18th of July, for horſes and horned cattle.

INGOTSTONE, which lies five miles north-eaſt of Brentwood, in the road from London to Harwich, is little better than a village; it has however, an alms-houſe for twenty poor people, with a chaplain to read ſervice to them every day, founded in the reign of king Henry the Eighth, by Sir William Petre, and a church, in which Sir William lies interred under a ſtately monument. A fair is held here on the firſt of November, for horned cattle.

CHELMSFORD, the Ceſaromagus of Antonînus, obtained its name from its ſituation in a fine plain on the river Chelmer, near its confluence with a ſmall ſtream called the Cann, twenty-two miles ſouth-weſt of Colcheſter, and twenty-eight north-eaſt of London. It has a bridge over the Chelmer, at which river there was probably only a ford. It is a pretty large, neat and populous town, ſtanding almoſt in the centre of the county, and is a great thoroughfare in the London road to Norwich, Yarmouth, and other places in Norfolk, as well as to Harwich and Ipſwich. It is not, indeed, the largeſt town in the county, but, from its ſituation, is the moſt frequented for public buſineſs; for which reaſon it is generally choſen for the general quarter ſeſſions, and county courts; the meetings of the commiſſioners of the land and window taxes, and the elections for knights of the ſhire. Chelmsford has one church, which ſeems to have been built almoſt

400 years ago; for on the outside of the south wall is the following inscription, "Pray for the "good estate of the township of Chelmsford, "that hath been willing and prompt of helpys "to build this church, MCCCLXXXIX." It has also a famous free-school, founded and endowed by Edward the Sixth, as also a charity-school by subscription, for forty-five boys, and twenty-five girls. The chief support of this town is from the business of the county, and the numerous carriages and droves of cattle, with the vast quantities of provisions and manufactures, that are constantly going thro' it to London. It has a good market on Fridays, and two fairs; one held on the 12th of May, and the other on the 12th of November, both for cattle.

Sir Walter Mildmay, chancellor and under-treasurer of the Exchequer, and founder of Emmanuel college in Cambridge, in the sixteenth century, was born at Chelmsford; but in what year is uncertain. In the reign of king Henry the Eighth, he was surveyor of the court of augmentation; and two days after the coronation of king Edward the Sixth, he was created one of the knights of the carpet. As he was zealously attached to the protestant religion, he interfered very little in public affairs during the reign of queen Mary; but upon the accession of queen Elizabeth, he again began to act in a public capacity. In 1566, he was appointed chancellor and under-treasurer of the Exchequer, and continued to enjoy these lucrative posts till the day of his death, which happened May 31, 1589. In 1584, he founded Emmanuel college in Cambridge. It contained at first a master, three fellows, and four scholars; but at present it contains a master, fourteen fellows, and fifty scholars.

DANBURY is a village four miles eaſt-ſouth-eaſt of Chelmsford, and is ſeated upon a pretty high hill, at the top of which is a church, with ſo high a ſpire, that it is uſed as a ſea-mark. In this church there were three chauntries founded by the Darcys, which at the diſſolution were reſtored to the ſame family. There is one fair kept here one Shrove-Tueſday, for toys.

Eight miles north of Chelmsford is LEEZ, or LEIGHS, a village, where a priory was founded by Sir Ralph Gernoun, in the reign of Henry the Third, for friars of the Auguſtin order, and dedicated to the Virgin Mary and St. John. In 1309 Ralph de Baldock, biſhop of London, viſited this priory, and made ſeveral injunctions to be obſerved by the prior and convent. It was valued, at the diſſolution, at 114l. a year, by Dugdale; but at 141l. by Speed. It is at preſent in the poſſeſſion of Charles Sheffield, Eſq; the old gatehouſe is a very regular ſtructure, and the whole is now converted into a very handſome country ſeat.

On the ſouth ſide of the road from Chelmsford to Colcheſter is HATFIELD PEVERIL, a village eight miles eaſt by north of Chelmsford, which has a fair on Whitſun-Tueſday, for toys.

Eight miles north-eaſt of Chelmsford is WITHAM, a pleaſant town, neatly built: it has ſeveral very handſome inns, and in the neighbourhood are many elegant ſeats. A conſiderable number of people reſort hither in ſummer to drink the water of the Spaw, and the neighbouring gentry have aſſemblies in the town once a month. There is here a market on Saturdays, with two fairs, one on the Monday before Whitſunday, and the other on the 14th of September, for toys.

Five miles to the ſouth of Witham is MALDEN, or MALDON, the ancient Camelodunum, a city

a city of the Romans, as appears from ſome coins of king Cunobeline dug up here. This was the firſt Roman colony in Britain, the town was taken by the emperor Claudius in the year 43, who placing a ſtout band of veterans in it, called it Colonia Victricentis: he likewiſe coined money in memory of this exploit, on which was inſcribed COL. CAMALODUN. The Romans alſo erected here a temple to the honour of Claudius, in which was an altar, called the altar of Eternal Dominion; and certain prieſts, termed Sodales Auguſtales, were appointed to attend it; but the cruelty and oppreſſion of the Roman ſoldiers of this ſtation ſo exaſperated the Britons, and in particular Boadicea, queen of the Iceni, who perſonally receiving the groſſeſt and moſt diſgraceful inſults, ſhe collected a numerous army, and beſieged, plundered and burnt this city. She afterwards ſtormed the temple, where the ſoldiers were got together to defend themſelves; and in two days time ſhe put them all to the ſword. She likewiſe routed the ninth legion, that came to their aſſiſtance; inſomuch, that in the whole ſhe killed 70000 Romans and their allies. The Romans rebuilt it ſometime after, as appears from the Itineraryof Antoninus, who takes notice of it as being a Roman ſtation. After this king Alfred, ſometimes called Edward the Elder, finding it greatly ruined by the Danes, repaired and fortified it with a caſtle.

It is at preſent a large and populous borough, governed by two bailiffs, eight aldermen, a ſteward, recorder, and eighteen capital burgeſſes. The common burgeſſes are about 400 in number, who have all votes in electing members for parliament. It is a liberty within itſelf, and has a convenient harbour. Some of the inhabitants carry on a conſiderable trade in coals, iron,

iron, deals, corn, wine, brandy and rum. It is pretty populous and large, and chiefly conſiſts of one ſtreet, near a mile in length, which branches out into many lanes. There were anciently three churches, two of which are ſtill made uſe of, and the third is converted into a ſchool-houſe. It has a large library for the uſe of the miniſters of the place, and the clergy of the neighbouring towns, who generally reſide here, becauſe the air where their churches ſtand is much more unwholſome. There are alſo three meeting-houſes; the dwelling-houſes, which are about 1000 in number, are but indifferently built, and the ſtreets are narrow and not paved. Near it are two bridges, over the rivers Stelmer and Blackwater.

Here is a grammar-ſchool and a work-houſe, in which the poor weave ſackcloth. Blackwater-bay is famous for its excellent oyſters, called Wall-fleets, from a wall of earth, which extends five miles along the ſhore, where they lie. Mr. Camden is of opinion, that theſe oyſters are thoſe, which Pliny ſays ſupplied the Roman kitchens. There are ſtill to be ſeen the intrenchments thrown up by the Danes.

Here are the ruins of a priory of Carmelites, or white-friars, founded by Richard Graveſend, biſhop of London, and Richard Iſelham, prieſt, about the year 1292, and dedicated to St. Mary. It continued till the general diſſolution, when it was valued at 26l. a year. The town-hall is an ancient ſtructure; and here was formerly a caſtle belonging to the king, now demoliſhed. Many antiquities have been dug up here, ſuch as ancient coins, among which was a piece of gold, almoſt as large as a guinea, with a buſt of Nero upon one ſide, and of Agrippina on the other, not ill executed; as alſo Saxon armour, iron cups, and

the

the like. The market is held on Saturdays; and there is a fair on the 18th of September, for toys.

There is a cuſtom in this place, that when a man dies inteſtate, his lands and tenements deſcend to his youngeſt ſon; or if he dies without iſſue, to his youngeſt brother. This cuſtom is termed Borough-Engliſh, and is ſaid to have been originally much more general, and to have ariſen from the lewdneſs and tyranny of the ancient feudal lords, who, when any of thoſe who held under them married, claimed the firſt night with the bride: as ſome doubt, therefore, naturally aroſe, whether the firſt born child was legitimate, this cuſtom was eſtabliſhed, to exclude ſuch child from the inheritance, and the youngeſt was preferred in its ſtead, as being the moſt diſtant from ſuſpicion.

At LITTLE-MALDEN, near this town, was an hoſpital for the leprous townſmen of Malden, founded by one of the kings of England, before the ſixteenth of Edward the Second, and dedicated to St. Giles. The maſterſhip or wardenſhip of this hoſpital was in the gift of the crown. King Richard the Second granted the houſe to the prior of Bicknacre, near Chelmsford; but afterwards it was united to the abbey of Billeigh.

At DANBURY, a village about four miles to the eaſt of Malden, between thirty and forty years ago, were found ſome celts, and at Fyfield, ſome were alſo found in the year 1749, with a great quantity of the metal for caſting them.

STANESGATE, is a village between Malden and the ſea, on the ſouth ſide of the Gulph. Here was a priory of monks of the Cluniac order, founded by the predeceſſors of the priors of Lewes, to which monaſtery it was ſubordinate. It was dedicated to St. Mary Magdalen, and was in being in the year 1176; but was ſuppreſſed by cardinal

dinal Wolsey in the eighteenth of Henry the Eighth, when its revenue was valued at 43l. 8s. 3d. per annum. Upon the cardinal's attainder, this cell was granted, in consideration of the exchange of some other lands, to the knights of St. John of Jerusalem.

On returning back to Witham, and proceeding eight miles to the northward, we come to BRAINTREE, a large town seated on a hill, eleven miles north of Chelmsford, fourteen south by west of Sudbury, and forty-two north-east of London. It was lately famous for a great manufacture of baize and says. The church was anciently half a mile out of the town; but in the reign of Edward the Third, it was removed to this place. This town abounds with dissenters, and Henry Smith, one of their denomination, left 2800l. to be laid out in land, for the relief of the poor of this and some neighbouring parishes. Here is a charity-school. The market is on Wednesdays, and there are two fairs, one on the 8th of May, and the other on the 2d of October, for cattle, butter, and cheese.

Two miles north of Braintree is BOCKING, one of the largest villages in Essex, where the clothiers have good houses, and a sort of baize peculiar to themselves, called Bockings.

Five miles north-east of Braintree is HALSTEAD, which is seated on a hill, at the foot of which runs the river Coln. Here a college was begun by Robert de Bourchier, lord chancellor of England, in the fourteenth year of Edward the Third, for eight priests. The town has a market on Tuesdays, and two fairs; the first on the 6th of May, and the other on the 29th of October, for cattle.

About six miles to the east of Braintree is COGGESHALL, or COXALL, a town which is suppo-

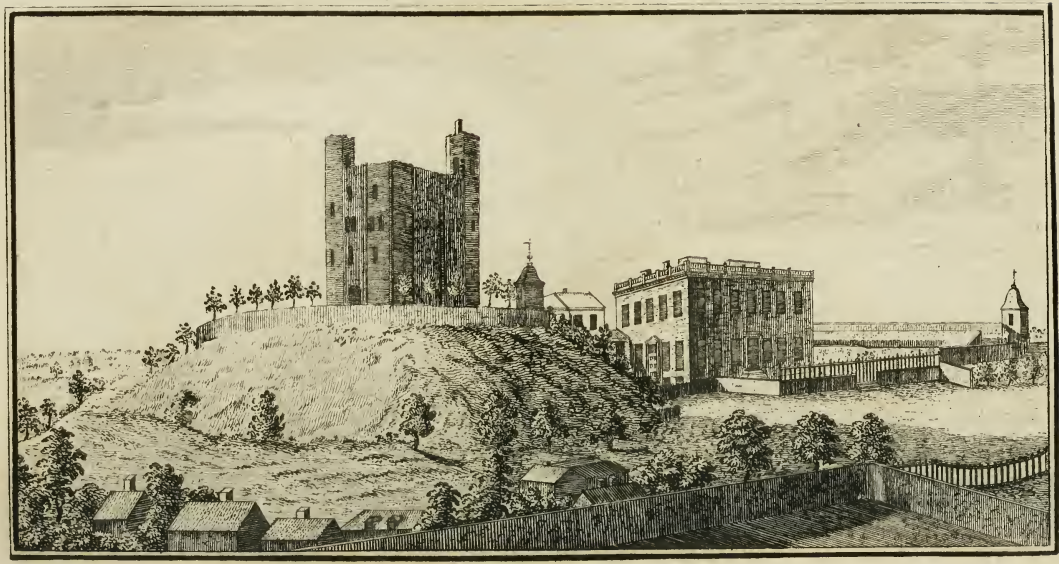
sed

ſed to have received its name from Coccillus, a Roman, who was buried there. It is ſeated on the river Blackwater, over which is has a bridge, and was formerly a great clothing town, it having once a very conſiderable manufacture of baize and ſays, and a peculiar kind of ſtuff, called Coggeſhall whites, ſaid to be finer than any other woollen-cloth. By the road ſide, near this town, was found a grotto, with arched-work, in which was a phial, containing a lamp covered with a Roman-tile, fourteen inches long; as alſo ſome urns, with aſhes and bones in them: one of theſe urns reſembled coral, and had this inſcription, COCCILLI M. that is, to the manes of Coccillus. And at Weſtfield, about three quarters of a mile from hence, was found, three hundred years ago, a brazen pot, covered with a white paſte or clay, as hard as brick, which contained two other earthen pots, the innermoſt of which was covered with ſtuff like velvet, and tied with a ſilk lace. In this there were whole bones, and many pieces of ſmall bones, wrapped up in fine ſilk. They were ſhown to the abbot who owned the land, who took them for relicks of ſaints, and laid them up in his veſtry.

At Coggeſhall was an abbey of Ciſtercian monks, founded by king Stephen and Maud his queen in the year 1140, and dedicated to the Virgin Mary. William de Humberſtane, with the king's licenſe, gave the manor of Tillinghan to theſe monks, for the finding of one wax light to burn before the high altar, at the abbey church in the time of high maſs daily. At the general ſuppreſſion it was valued at 251 l. a year, by Dugdale; but at 298 l. by Speed. The market at this town is on Saturdays, and it has one fair, on Whit-Tueſday, for horſes and toys.

CASTLE-HENNINGHAM, ſo called to diſtinguiſh it

The South West View of **Henningham Castle**, *in the County of* **Essex**.



Vol. III. pa. 41.

it from Sible Henningham, is a village upon the Coln, ten miles north of Coggeſhall. Here a caſtle was built by the family of the Veres, afterwards earls of Oxford. Here John de Vere, earl of Oxford, entertained Henry the Seventh, with all poſſible ſplendor and magnificence, and having on this extraordinary occaſion put his retainers in rich liveries, and it being contrary to an act of parliament then in force, forbidding the giving of liveries to any but menial ſervants, the king ſaid at his going away, By my faith, my lord, I thank you for my good chear; but I muſt not ſuffer to have my laws broken before my face, my attorney-general muſt talk with you.

It now belongs to Thomas Aſhurſt, Eſq; and is a beautiful ancient ſtructure, ſtanding on the top of a ſmall hill, and built in the old Gothic taſte; below it is a fine modern built houſe, and both together form a delightful ſeat. There is a fair at the village on May 3, for cattle and toys.

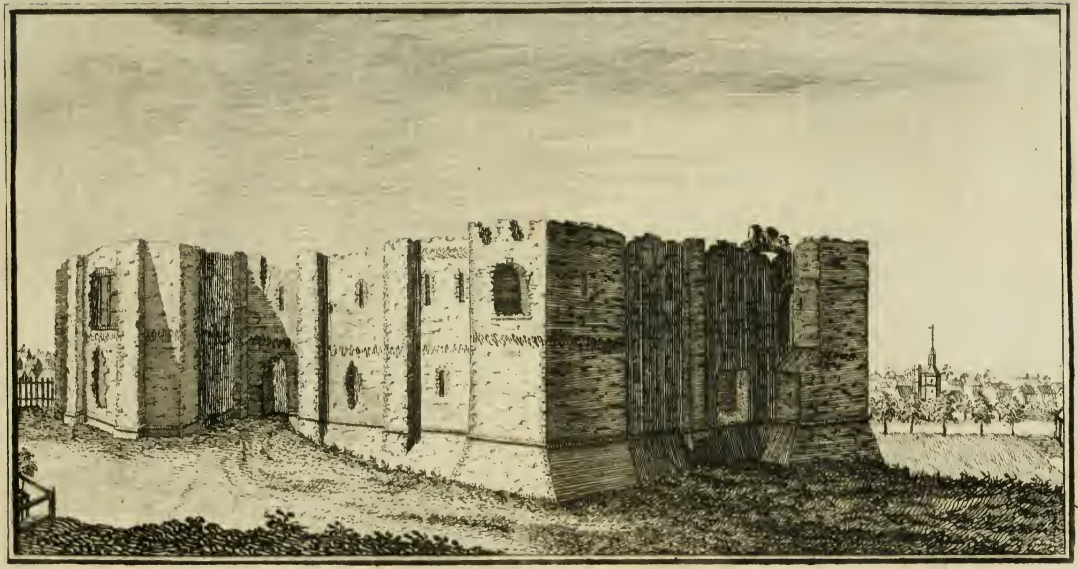
Here Aubery de Vere, firſt earl of Oxford, or rather, as ſome think, Lucia, his counteſs, who became firſt prioreſs, built a ſmall Benedictine nunnery, before the year 1190, dedicated to the Holy-Croſs, St. Mary and St. James, which, at the time of the ſuppreſſion, was valued at 29l. 12s. 10d. per annum.

At HENNINGHAM, near Henningham Caſtle, Hugh de Vere, earl of Oxford, founded an hoſpital about the year 1250, in which were two or three chaplains, beſides a clerk, ſervant, and ſeveral poor ſick people.

About eleven miles eaſt of Coggeſhall is COLCHESTER, which derives its name from the river Coln, that waters the north and eaſt parts of the town. It is twenty-one miles weſt by ſouth of Harwich, twenty-two eaſt-north-eaſt of Chelmſford, and fifty on the ſame point from London.

This

This is the Colonia of Antoninus; and at firſt view appears to be Roman; for, among the materials of the caſtle, town, and churches, there are thought to be more Roman bricks, than in any town in England. The caſtle has abundance of theſe bricks, and there is great reaſon to believe, that its foundation was laid by the Romans; for, one part being broken up, a coin of Galba was found between the bricks, laid in the manner that thoſe pieces have been deſignedly placed, to diſcover the age of the building: but they are daily demoliſhing one part of this ancient monument to prevent its falling, or to make money of the materials. There are four towers ſtill ſtanding, but not directly at the corners; one is round, and the reſt ſquare. Under the fort, within the walls, is a large vault, deſigned perhaps for a magazine or ſtorehouſe, tho' probably it has never been uſed as ſuch. The caſtle and its area ſeem to have taken up about four acres of ground; and a great part of the wall that encloſed the whole is ſtill remaining. This caſtle, of which we have given a view in its preſent ſtate, is ſaid to have been built by Edward, ſon of king Alfred, ſoon after the year 910, about which time he had taken many towns from the Danes, which he fortified with caſtles. Others with greater probability have related, that the town with its caſtle having been deſtroyed by the Danes, and lying in ruins, William the Conqueror granted it to the famous Eudo Dapifer, who built the preſent caſtle on the ſite of an ancient palace. The preſent poſſeſſor is Charles Grey, Eſq; It is ſaid, that at the late queen's-head in the market-place, the ſtable and room over it is a Roman ſtructure. In May 1763, a Roman moſaic, or teſſellated pavement, was diſcovered on the north ſide of the High-ſtreet in Colcheſter, in a garden belonging to Mr. John Bernard,



Vol. III. pa. 42.

The North East View of Colchester Castle

Bernard, apothecary and ſurgeon, late part of the yard of the falcon and queen's-head inn. It conſiſts of a border of red *teſſeræ*, or dies, each about an inch ſquare, including a curious workmanſhip made of leſſer *teſſeræ*, black, white, red and yellow, looking like a beautiful carpet.

This place is at preſent very populous, and the moſt conſiderable town in the county. It is about three miles in circumference, and was formerly walled round, and ſome ruins of the walls are ſtill remaining. The ſtreets of which two run from the top of the hill to the bottom, are ſpacious; and though not in general remarkably well built, have a great many good houſes in them. Beſides the Guildhall, adjoining to which is the town-jail, and a building called Dutch-Baize-hall, belonging to a corporation for the ſupport of the baize and ſay manufactures, both of which are fine buildings. Here are ſixteen pariſh churches; but there are not above ſix of them in uſe, the reſt being either decayed, or have not a ſufficient revenue to maintain an officiating clergyman; but beſides theſe, there are a Dutch church, a French church, and five meeting-houſes, two of which are for the Quakers. Here are alſo two free grammar-ſchools, two charity-ſchools, beſides a workhouſe for the poor. There are three bridges over the river Coln, which was made navigable by act of parliament for ſmall craft, up to a long ſtreet, near the water-ſide, called the Hith, where there is a quay; and for ſhips of large burthen, to a place called the Wyvenhoe, within three miles of the town, where there is a cuſtom-houſe; and a little farther, towards the ſea, is capable of receiving a royal navy. Colcheſter is governed by a mayor, a high ſteward, a recorder, or his deputy, eleven aldermen, a chamberlain, a town clerk, eighteen

aſſiſtants,

aſſiſtants, and eighteen common-councilmen. The mayor and aldermen for the time being, with forty-eight guardians are alſo a corporation for the benefit of the poor. It was laſt incorporated by king William the Third, and is a liberty of itſelf, having four wards, and ſixteen pariſhes, eight within the walls, and eight without; and it has the privilege of ſending two members to parliament. It has the greateſt manufacture of bays and ſays of any in the kingdom. Its excellent oyſters have been already taken notice of, as well as its candid eringo-root. The woollen manufacturers here conſume ſuch ſhoals of ſprats, that this fiſh is commonly called in Eſſex, The Weaver's Beef of Colcheſter. There are here three markets, on Wedneſdays, Fridays and Saturdays, with four fairs, viz. on Eaſter-Tueſday, for wholeſale taylors, on the 24th of June, for horſes, the 23d of July, for horned cattle and horſes, and on the 20th of October, for cheeſe, butter and toys.

This town held out a long ſiege in the time of the grand rebellion; when Sir Charles Lucas, and Sir George Liſle, with ſeveral other of the king's friends, being blocked up in it by the parliament's army under Sir Thomas Fairfax, it was at laſt reduced by famine, and both Sir Charles and Sir George were executed ſoon after the ſurrender.

This town had once many religious houſes, but the abbey of St. John Baptiſt, built by Eudo, a great officer in the court of king William the Conqueror, and his two ſons, was the principal. It was begun in the year 1096, and finiſhed in 1104, when it was conſecrated by Mauritius, biſhop of London, and filled with Benedictine monks. It was well endowed by the founder and ſeveral others; and the abbots ſat in the Houſe of Lords, as barons of the kingdom; but John Beach, the

the laſt prior of this abbey, being executed for high treaſon, it fell into the hands of Henry the Eighth, and was valued, at the diſſolution of religious houſes, at 534l. a year, by Dugdale. There is ſtill a very handſome gate-houſe remaining, with four turrets; but all the reſt is entirely demoliſhed. The ſight of it is at preſent a garden, conſiſting of fourteen acres of land. Two walls are ſtanding, one on the ſouth, next the fields, and the other on the ſame front, about the middle of the ground, which, perhaps, ſeparated the building from the garden. The gardener, ſome years ago, dug up ſeveral ſtone-coffins, perforated at the bottom.

Eudo, at the command of king Henry the Firſt, erected on the ſouth-eaſt ſide of the town an hoſpital for a maſter, and ſeveral leprous people, dedicated to St. Mary Magdalen. Henry the Second took them under his protection, and Richard the Firſt granted them a fair of two days, which ſtill continues. The church is now parochial, and a rectory. The hoſpital was, at the diſſolution, valued at no more than 11l. a year.

On the ſouth ſide of the town, one Arnulphus founded a monaſtery, in the beginning of the reign of Henry the Firſt, for Auſtin canons, dedicated to St. Julian and St. Botolph, and became prior of it himſelf. This was eſteemed the firſt houſe of the order in England, and was valued, at the ſuppreſſion, at 113l. 12s. a year, by Speed, but at 523l. 17s. by Dugdale.

On the ſouth-weſt ſide of Colcheſter was an hoſpital or priory of Crouched friars, in which the brethren of the holy-croſs, who came into England in the year 1244, were placed. They were the firſt of their order; and the houſe is called in the London Regiſtry, The hoſpital or chapel of the Croſſed friars; but the chief monaſtery was after-

afterwards built near Tower-Hill. It was valued, at the ſuppreſſion, at 7 l. 7 s. 8 d. per annum.

Near the eaſt gate of the town was another religious houſe, built by Robert, lord Fitzwalter, in 1309, for Franciſcans, or Grey friars. He afterwards took their habit, and ſpent the reſt of his days there.

At COLN-WHITE, or EARL's COLN, a village on the river Coln, between Colcheſter and Hatfield, Albericus de Vere, erected a priory for Black monks, from Abingdon in Berkſhire, in the beginning of the reign of king Henry the Firſt, and became himſelf a monk in this houſe, which he made ſubordinate to that abbey. It was dedicated to St. Mary, and St. John the Evangeliſt; and had, at the diſſolution, a prior and ten monks, poſſeſſed of a yearly revenue of the value of 156 l. 12 s. 4 d. A fair is held here on the 25th of March, for cattle and toys.

William Gilbert, a moſt learned phyſician in the ſixteenth and ſeventeenth centuries, was born at Colcheſter, in the year 1540. Having finiſhed his ſtudies at the Engliſh univerſities, he travelled into foreign parts, where he probably obtained the degree of doctor of phyſic, ſince it does not appear that he took it at home. At his return to England, he was choſen a member of the college of phyſicians in London, and appointed chief phyſician to queen Elizabeth; which ſtation he likewiſe enjoyed under king James the Firſt. He publiſhed a treatiſe concerning the load-ſtone, which was the firſt regular ſyſtem on that curious ſubject. He was alſo the inventor of two excellent inſtruments for finding out the latitude of any place, without the help of the ſun, moon and ſtars. He died unmarried, November the 30th, 1603, and was buried in the church of Holy Trinity in Colcheſter.

Samuel

Samuel Harſnet, a learned writer in the ſeventeenth century, and ſucceſſively biſhop of Chicheſter and Norwich, and archbiſhop of York, was born in the town of Colcheſter, June the 20th, 1561. Having finiſhed his ſtudies in King's college, and Pembroke hall, in Cambridge, he accepted the maſterſhip of the free-ſchool in Colcheſter, which, however, he ſoon reſigned. About the year 1597, he became chaplain to Dr. Richard Bancroft, biſhop of London, and afterwards archbiſhop of Canterbury; by whoſe intereſt he was promoted, firſt to a prebend in St. Paul's cathedral, then to the archdeaconry of Eſſex, ſoon after to the maſterſhip of Pembroke hall, Cambridge, as alſo to the vice-chancellorſhip of that univerſity; and advancing gradually through ſeveral inferior church preferments, he roſe at laſt, in 1609, to the biſhopric of Chicheſter. In 1619 he was tranſlated to the ſee of Norwich; and, in 1628, to the archbiſhoprick of York, which, however, he did not long enjoy; for he died on the 25th of May, 1631, and was interred in Chigwell-church, in Eſſex. Among other things he publiſhed a ſermon againſt predeſtination, which is commonly looked upon as a moſt maſterly performance.

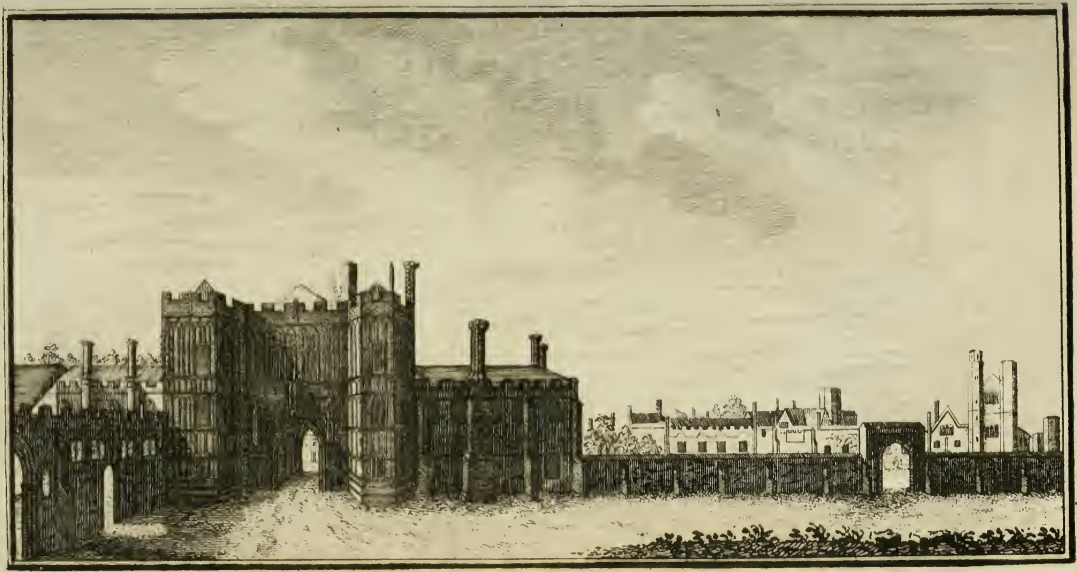
About eight miles to the ſouth of Colcheſter is a ſmall iſland called MERSEY, made partly by the ſea, partly by the rivers Coln and Blackwater, and partly from a ſtream that runs from one river to the other. In this iſland is a village called Weſt Merſey, where there was a ſmall priory founded by Roger Fitz Ranulph, and made a cell of Benedictines to the abbey of St. Audouen, at Roan in Normandy, by St. Edward, and dedicated to St. Helen. It was a prior-alien, and ſuppreſſed with others by king Henry the Fifth, and given to archbiſhop Chichely and his heirs, who ſettled it on his

his collegiate church at Higham-Ferrers in Northamptonſhire, which he founded for eight ſecular canons, four clerks, and ſix choriſters. This iſle is a place of great ſtrength, for which reaſon the parliament put 1000 men therein, to guard it from any attempts of the Dutch, in the war with that nation.

ST. OSYTH is a village twelve miles ſouth by eaſt of Colcheſter, where there was a priory, named after that Holy Virgin, who having devoted herſelf entirely to the ſervice of God, was ſtabbed by the Daniſh pyrates, and reputed a ſaint. Richard de Beauvis, biſhop of London, built, and endowed this religious houſe to her memory, about the year 1120, and filled it with regular canons of the order of St. Auguſtine. The church was ſupplied by the canons, or ſuch as they appointed, till the ſuppreſſion, when both the manor, monaſtery and advowſon, were given to Thomas lord Cromwell; but he being attainted, they returned to the crown, and were by Edward the Sixth granted to Sir Thomas Darcy. It was valued, at the diſſolution, at 677 l. a year, by Dugdale; but by Speed, at 758 l. It is ſtill entire, and is a regular handſome ſtructure, conſidering the time in which it was built, as will appear from the view we have here given of it. There is one fair at this village, on Holy Thurſday, for toys.

At HORSLEY PARVA, a village ſix miles to the northward of Colcheſter, was a priory of Cluniac monks, ſubordinate to a monaſtery of the ſame order, at Thetford in Norfolk, founded in the reign of Henry the Firſt, by Robert Fitz Godebold, and Beatrix his wife. It was dedicated to St. Peter, and ſuppreſſed by Cardinal Wolſey, when the annual revenue of it was rated at 27 l. 7 s. 11 d.

We



The South View of St. Osyth's Priory *in the County of* Essex.

Vol. IIII. pa. 28.

We ſhall now return to Colcheſter, and taking the road which leads to Harwich, proceed to MANNIGTREE, or MAINTREE, as it is commonly called, which is a little dirty town, twelve miles weſt of Harwich, nine north-eaſt of Colcheſter, and fifty-nine north-eaſt of London. It has however, a good market held on Tueſdays, and a fair on the 15th of June, for toys. The church is a chapel of eaſe to Miſtley, a neighbouring village.

HARWICH is ſituated twelve miles ſouth-eaſt of Ipſwich, twenty-one eaſt by north of Colcheſter, and ſeventy-one north-eaſt of London. It derives its name from the Saxon word Harewic, a haven or bay, where a navy may ride, and is ſuppoſed to have been thus called from a ſea-fight in the harbour, between the Saxons and Danes in the year 884. This is the ſtation of the packet boats between England and Holland. The harbour is ſafe and ſo ſpacious, that 100 men of war have been ſeen in it at a time, beſides 3 or 400 ſail of colliers. The mouth of the harbour is at high water near three miles wide; but the channel, by which alone the ſhips can come into it, is deep and narrow, lying on the Suffolk ſide; whence all the ſhips that come in or go out, are commanded by a ſtrong fort, called Landguard-fort, built by king James the Firſt, on a point of land ſo encompaſſed by the ſea at high water, that it ſeems an iſland lying about a mile from the ſhore. The fortifications on the land ſide were demoliſhed in the reign of king Charles the Firſt; but tho' an act of parliament has ſince been paſſed for erecting new fortifications, and ground has been purchaſed for that purpoſe, little or no progreſs has been made in the work. The town is not very large, but is well built and populous, and fortified by nature, by its being almoſt ſurrounded by the ſea. Between the town and a high hill,

not far distant, is a cliff consisting of a kind of clay, parts of which are continually falling down into a petrifying water at the bottom, which they imbibe; and being afterwards taken out and dried, become an almost impenetrable and durable stone; and of this the walls and pavement of Harwich consist. On the top of the above hill, which stands to the south of the harbour, and opposite to the fort, is a large, high built light-house, whence there is an extensive view of the coasts of Essex and Sussex. It is about half a mile distant from the town, and there is a fine walk to it, which is extremely pleasant in fine weather. Here is a very good yard for building ships, with store-houses, cranes, launches, and other necessaries. The inns are very good, but the great concourse of passengers made accommodations so extravagantly dear, that sloops were sometime since fitted up, to sail directly for Holland and Germany from the Thames. This town was first made a borough and corporation, in the reign of Edward the Second, by Thomas Brotherton, earl of Norfolk, and marshal of England. It received a new charter in the time of James the First, by the interest of Edward Coke, then attorney general, and afterwards recorder of this town for life. Which charter, and all other immunities belonging to the town, were through the mediation of Sir Harbottle Grimstone, their recorder at that time, and master of the Rolls, confirmed by Charles the Second. The corporation at present consists of a mayor, chosen annually on St. Andrew's day, out of eight aldermen. There is also a recorder, and twenty-four capital burgesses; the members to serve in parliament are chosen, by the said mayor, aldermen and burgesses. The mayor has the power of keeping admiralty courts, which have a jurisdiction over all naval affairs.

The

The church here, ever since the reformation, has been a chapel to the mother church at Dover court, a village a little to the south of it. The market is on Saturdays, and there are two fairs, on May 1 and October 18, for toys.

To the south-west of Harwich are three islands, called HOLMES, HORSEY, and PEWET, separated from the main land only by the winding of a stream, and the influx of the sea. Upon these islands is found a sea fowl, which, when fat, is very delicious food. To the south of these islands are three villages, included within a liberty or lordship, anciently termed the liberty of the soke, in which the sheriff of the county has no power, and wherein no writ can be executed but by the bailiff of the liberty, nor by him, without the lord's consent.

Eight miles south of Harwich is WALTON, a village where a fair is kept on the 2d of July for toys. In the reign of Richard the Second, there were found in this parish two teeth so very large, that 200 men's teeth might be cut out of them. Authors pretend, that they were the teeth of giants, which is ridiculous; tho' it must be acknowledged, that teeth of a very extraordinary size have been found in different parts of this kingdom; but to what animal they belonged, is not very certain; for some are of opinion, they were elephants teeth; and others those of the morse.

GREAT CLACTON is a village fourteen miles south by west of Harwich, where Richard de Belmeis, in the reign of Henry the First, erected a stately house in the midst of a park; but it is long since gone to decay. There is a fair here on the 29th of June, for toys.

LITTLE CLACTON is about two miles north of the former, and has a fair on the 25th of July, for toys.

Beſides the eminent perſons already mentioned, in treating of the principal places in this county, it has produced the following remarkable perſons.

Richard de Badew, the firſt and original founder of Clare-hall in Cambridge, was deſcended of an honourable family ſeated at Great Badew, near Chelmsford, from which place the family took their ſurname; and here probably Richard was born. In 1326, he was chancellor of the univerſity of Cambridge; and having purchaſed two tenements in Miln-ſtreet, he there laid, in the year above-mentioned, the foundation of a building, to which he gave the name of Univerſity-hall. This building was afterwards completed by Elizabeth, daughter of Sir Gilbert de Clare, earl of Glouceſter; whence it acquired the name of Clare-hall. The revenues of it have been ſince augmented by ſeveral benefactors; ſo that at preſent it contains one maſter, eighteen fellows, and ſixty-three ſcholars.

Thomas Bourchier, archbiſhop of Canterbury, in the ſucceſſive reigns of Henry the Sixth, Edward the Fourth, Edward the Fifth, Richard the Third, and Henry the Seventh, was the ſon of William Bourchier, earl of Ewe in Normandy and the counteſs of Eſſex, was born at Hawſtead in this county. His firſt dignity in the church was that of dean of St. Martin's in London; whence he roſe to the ſee of Worceſter, then to that of Ely; and, laſt of all, to the archpiſhopric of Canterbury, to which he was advanced in 1454. In the month of December following he was created a cardinal-prieſt of *St. Cyriacus in Thermis*; and next year was made chancellor of England, tho' he reſigned that office in a little time after. He performed the marriage ceremony between Henry the Seventh, and the daughter of Edward the Fourth;

Fourth; and having preſided over the Engliſh church for the ſpace of thirty-two years, he died the 30th of March, 1486, and was interred in the cathedral of Canterbury. He was the principal inſtrument of introducing the art of printing into England, having firſt ſuggeſted the thought of ſending Caxton to Harlem, where that gentleman made himſelf maſter of the art.

Thomas Audley, deſcended of an ancient and honourable family in this county, was born in the year 1488. After finiſhing his ſtudies at the univerſity, he removed to the inns of court, where he diſtinguiſhed himſelf ſo much by his abilities, as to attract the notice of the duke of Suffolk, by whom he was recommended to king Henry the Eighth. By his majeſty's influence he was choſen ſpeaker of that parliament, which confirmed the king's divorce from Catharine of Arragon, and his marriage with Anne Boleyn. Upon the reſignation of lord chancellor More in 1532, Mr. Audley ſucceeded him in that high office. He afterwards ſat in judgment upon his predeceſſor, who was condemned to death, for refuſing to acknowledge the king's ſupremacy. About the ſame time, he was advanced to the honour of knighthood; and, in 1538, he was created a baron of the realm, by the title of lord Audley of Walden, in the county of Eſſex. He preſided at the trial of biſhop Fiſher, Anne Boleyn, the marquis of Exeter, and of ſeveral other eminent perſonages. He received from the king, a grant of the ſcite of the priory of Chriſt's church, together with all the church plate, and lands belonging to that houſe. And, after enjoying the favour of his ſovereign for the greateſt part of his life, and the office of chancellor for upwards of twelve years, died April the 30th, 1544, in the fifty-ſixth year of his age.

Sir Anthony Cooke, preceptor or governor to king Edward the Sixth, and great grandſon to Sir Thomas Cooke, formerly lord mayor of London, was born at Gidding-hall in Eſſex, about the year 1506. Where he received his education, is not known; certain it is, he was a complete maſter of the whole circle of arts, being equally ſkilled in the languages, philology, poetry, hiſtory, and mathematicks. Theſe qualifications could not fail to recommend him to the notice of king Edward the Sixth's guardians, who appointed him chief inſtructor to that prince; in which office how well he acquitted himſelf, the great progreſs Edward made in all branches of learning, is a ſufficient teſtimony. During the perſecuting reign of queen Mary, he was an exile for religion; but, upon the acceſſion of queen Elizabeth, he returned to his native country, where he ſpent the remainder of his days in peace, and died at Gidding-hall, June 11, 1576, in the ſeventieth year of his age.

Horace Vere, baron of Tilbury, youngeſt brother of the famous general Sir Francis Vere, and himſelf a very accompliſhed commander, was born at Kirby-hall in Eſſex, in the year 1565. Entering early into a military life, he accompanied, in the twentieth year of his age, his brother Sir Francis into the Low Countries, where he diſtinguiſhed himſelf greatly by his courage and conduct. In 1600 he had a large ſhare in obtaining the victory at the battle of Newport. He afterwards ſignalized himſelf in the defence of Oſtend; as alſo in performing a moſt gallant retreat with 4000 men, from Spinola, the Spaniſh general, who was at the head of an army three times that number. He likewiſe commanded the forces that were ſent to the aſſiſtance of the king of Bohemia; and though he was not able to prevent the ruin

ruin of that prince's affairs, he yet continued, for a conſiderable time, to check the progreſs of the Imperial arms. At length, as a reward of his ſervices, he was, upon the acceſſion of king Charles the Firſt, advanced to the peerage, by the title of lord Vere, baron of Tilbury; being the firſt peer created by that monarch. He died May the 2d, 1635, and was interred, with military honours, in Weſtminſter abbey.

William Bedell, biſhop of Kilmore in Ireland, and one of the moſt famous prelates in that kingdom during the laſt century, was born at Black Notley in Eſſex, in the year 1570. Having gone through the uſual courſe of academical learning in Emmanuel college in Cambridge, he removed to St. Edmundſbury in Suffolk, where he had obtained a living. In 1604, Sir Henry Wotton being appointed, by king James ambaſſador to the ſtate of Venice, Mr. Bedell attended that gentleman thither in the quality of chaplain. During his reſidence in that city, which was for the ſpace of eight years, he contracted an intimate acquaintance with the celebrated Antonio de Dominis, archbiſhop of Spalatro, as alſo with the famous father Paul Sarpi, author of the hiſtory of the council of Trent. The former had even ſuch a regard for him, that, upon his return to England, he accompanied him to that kingdom. In 1627, Mr. Bedell was elected provoſt of Trinity college in Dublin; and about two years after, was raiſed to the ſees of Kilmore and Ardagh; in which high ſtation he behaved with a prudence, lenity and moderation, which gained him the affections of all ranks of people. Such, indeed, was his popularity, even among the Roman Catholics, that, upon the breaking out of the horrid Iriſh rebellion, the inſurgents abſtained, at leaſt for ſome time, from all violence againſt his perſon; tho', at laſt,

he and his family were ſeized, and carried priſoners to the caſtle of Cloughboughter, where all of them, except the biſhop, were put in irons. In about three weeks, however, himſelf, his two ſons, and his ſon-in-law, were exchanged for two of the O'Rourkes; but his conſtitution being broken, as well by the infirmities of age, as by his late confinement, he breathed his laſt on the 7th of February, 1641, and was interred in the church-yard of his own cathedral. He tranſlated into Engliſh the hiſtories of the interdicts and inquiſition, as alſo the two laſt books of the hiſtory of the council of Trent into Latin.

Francis Quarles, an Engliſh poet in the ſeventeenth century, and ſon of James Quarles, clerk of the green-cloth to queen Elizabeth, was born at Stewards, near Rumford in Eſſex, in 1592. He had his education at Chriſt's college in Cambridge, from whence he removed to Lincoln's-inn, London. He was afterwards preferred to the place of cup-bearer to Elizabeth, daughter of king James the Firſt, electreſs palatine and queen of Bohemia. Upon the ruin of her huſband's affairs, he went over to Ireland, where he became ſecretary to the learned archbiſhop Uſher. During the civil wars, he adhered to the royal party, which expoſed him to the reſentment of the ruling powers, who ſtripped him of ſome of his eſtates, and plundered his books and manuſcripts. Beſides his other employments, he was chronologer to the city of London. His works are numerous, and chiefly of the pious and moral kind. He died September the 8th, 1644.

John Baſtwick, a writer rendered remarkable by the implacable fury of his perſecutors, was born at Writtle in Eſſex, in the year 1593. In 1614 he was entered in Emanuel college, Cambridge, where he continued but a ſhort time. Leaving the univerſity

verſity without a degree, he travelled abroad for nine years, during which he took the degree of doctor of phyſic at Padua. Soon after his return to England, viz. in 1633, he publiſhed a book, entitled, *A Confutation of Popery, and a Scourge for the Pope and the Latin Biſhops*; for which (as reflecting, tho' in a covert manner, upon the Engliſh prelates) he was tried in the high commiſſion court, and fined in the ſum of one thouſand pounds, ſentenced to be excommunicated, to be debarred the practice of phyſic, to have his books burnt, and to remain in priſon till he made his recantation. During his confinement, he wrote another book, called, *An Apology for himſelf, addreſſed to the Biſhops*; and a third, named, *The Litany*; for which new productions, he was again tried, in 1637, together with Burton and Prynne; and all of them were condemned in a fine of five thouſand pounds each; to ſtand in the pillory, to loſe their ears, and to ſuffer perpetual impriſonment; but upon the meeting, however, of the long parliament in 1640, they were all ſet at liberty; and Baſtwick, in particular, upon his arrival in London (for he had been impriſoned in Scilly) was received amidſt the ſhouts and acclamations of the people. He was alive in 1648; but how long he ſurvived that period, or where he died, is uncertain.

Sir Harbottle Grimſton, a famous lawyer, and maſter of the Rolls in the ſeventeenth century, was deſcended of an ancient family, and born at Bradfield-hall, near Manningtree, in Eſſex, about the year 1594. In what ſchool he received his education, or whether he was ever a member of either of our univerſities, is uncertain. He ſtudied, however, the municipal laws of the land, at Lincolns-inn, with ſuch diligence and ſucceſs, that he became, at length, a very able practitioner.

In 1638 he was chosen recorder of Colchester; and, upon the meeting of the long parliaments in 1640, was elected one of the representatives for that borough. He seems at first to have been of the puritannical party; but when the parliament, or rather the army, proceeded to the dissolution of the government, and the murder of the king, he broke off all connections with them, and even exerted his utmost interest for the service of the royal cause. Upon the death of king Charles the First, he travelled into foreign parts; and returning to his native country, was, in 1660, chosen speaker of the House of Commons in that parliament, which restored the king, and re-established the constitution. As a reward of his services, he was appointed master of the rolls; which honourable office he discharged for above twenty-three years, with equal ability and uprightness. He never published any thing of his own; but he assisted Dr. Burnet in compiling his History of the Reformation. He died December the 31st, 1683, at about the ninetieth year of his age.

Joseph Mede, one of the most learned English divines of the seventeenth century, was born in October 1586, at Berden in this county. He was instructed in grammar-learning, first at Hoddesdon in Hertfordshire, and afterwards at Weathersfield in Essex. In 1602 he was entered of Christ's college, Cambridge, where he made such a rapid progress in his studies, that he was soon looked upon as a most accomplished scholar. In 1610 he was made master of arts; and, in a little time after, was chosen fellow of his college. About the year 1618, he took the degree of bachelor of divinity; but his modesty prevented him from taking that of doctor; and it was the same principle that restrained him from accepting the provostship of Trinity college, Dublin, which

which was twice preſſed upon him with the greateſt importunity. He died October the 1ſt, 1638, and was interred in the chapel of the college. His works are numerous. Some of them were publiſhed during his life-time, and others after his death. The principal are, a Commentary on the Revelations, and an explanation of ſeveral difficult paſſages of ſcripture.

John Gauden, ſucceſſively biſhop of Exeter and Worceſter, in the ſeventeenth century, was born in the year 1605, at Mayland in Eſſex, of which pariſh his father was vicar. After learning the languages at St. Edmund's Bury in Suffolk, he removed, firſt to St. John's college in Cambridge, and afterwards to Wadham college in Oxford, where he took the degrees in arts and divinity, and acted as tutor to ſeveral noblemen and gentlemen. In 1641, he was preſented to the rectory of Bocking in Eſſex; and, during the civil wars, accommodated himſelf ſo well to the times, that he retained his preferment. In a few days after the death of king Charles the Firſt, he publiſhed the Icon Baſilike, which, ſome think, he likewiſe compoſed; though others maintain, that it was written by king Charles himſelf. Upon the reſtoration he was made one of the king's chaplains, and promoted to the biſhopric of Exeter, from whence he was tranſlated to that of Worceſter, which he enjoyed but for a ſhort time; for being ſeized with a fit of the ſtone and ſtrangury, he died September the 20th, 1662, in the fifty-ſeventh year of his age. He was the author of ſeveral works, conſiſting chiefly of ſermons and controverſial pieces.

John Ray, a true Chriſtian philoſopher, and ingenious writer of the ſeventeenth century, was the ſon of a blackſmith, and born at Black Notley, in this county, November 29, 1628. He received

received his education at a ſchool in Braintree, near his native place, and at Catherine hall, and Trinity college in Cambridge, of which laſt he became a fellow. Having injured his health by too cloſe an application to his ſtudies, he was obliged to exerciſe himſelf by riding or walking in the fields; and this lead him to the ſtudy of plants, of which he publiſhed a very curious catalogue in 1660. The ſame year he was ordained deacon and prieſt, by Dr. Sanderſon, biſhop of Lincoln; but, upon the coming out of the uniformity-act, he could not comply with the terms it enjoined, he therefore reſigned his fellowſhip, and in 1661, made a tour through ſeveral parts of Scotland as well as England. He afterwards travelled through Holland, Germany, Italy, France, &c. and upon his return home, publiſhed an account of his travels. In 1667 he was admitted a fellow of the Royal Society, and became, in the ſequel, one of its moſt diſtinguiſhed members. As he was not poſſeſſed of any paternal eſtate, and never enjoyed any living in the church, his circumſtances were therefore far from being affluent. His chief dependance was upon a legacy of 60l. a year, left him by his generous patron Mr. Willoughby, of Middleton. He died January the 17th, 1706, in the ſeventy-eighth year of his age. Beſides the works above-mentioned, he wrote *A Hiſtory of Inſects, Birds and Beaſts*; *the Wiſdom of God in the Works of the Creation*; *Phyſico-Theological Diſcourſes*; and ſeveral other pieces.

Thomas Cawton, a very learned miniſter among the Non-conformiſts in the ſeventeenth century, and ſon of the reverend Mr. Thomas Cawton (a worthy and truly religious puritan, who was baniſhed for his loyalty) was born at Wyvenhoe, near Colcheſter in Eſſex, about the year 1637, his father being then miniſter of that place. Accompanying

companying his father in his exile, he ſtudied in the univerſity of Leyden; and, under the care of the famous profeſſor Leuſden, he made himſelf a thorough adept in the oriental languages. Upon the reſtoration of king Charles the Second, he returned to his native country, where he was entered of Merton college in Oxford, and admitted to the degree of bachelor of arts; but his nonconforming principles prevented him from receiving any preferment in the church He formed, however, a congregation of diſſenters in the city of Weſtminſter, to whom he preached for about ſeven years, when, falling into a bad ſtate of health, he died of a conſumption on the 10th of April, 1677, and was buried in the New Church in Tothill-ſtreet. He publiſhed a Diſſertation on the Syriac Verſion of the New Teſtament, as alſo an Eſſay on the Uſefulneſs of the Hebrew language in the Study of Philoſophy.

Sir William Dawes, archbiſhop of York in the eighteenth century, and youngeſt ſon of Sir John Dawes, Bart. was born at Lyons, near Braintree in Eſſex, September 2, 1671. He received the firſt rudiments of learning at Merchant-Taylors ſchool in London, whence he removed, in 1687, to St. John's college in Oxford, of which, about two years after, he was made a fellow. But his father's title and eſtate deſcending to him upon the death of his two brothers, he left Oxford; and entering himſelf a nobleman in Catherine hall, Cambridge, lived in his eldeſt brother's chambers; and, as ſoon as the rules of the univerſity would permit, took the degree of maſter of arts. Upon his arriving at a proper age, he was ordained deacon and prieſt by Dr. Compton, biſhop of London; and being ſoon after created doctor in divinity, he was unanimouſly elected maſter of Catherine hall in 1696. He

roſe

roſe gradually through ſeveral inferior church preferments, firſt to the biſhopric of Cheſter, and afterwards to the archbiſhopric of York, to the laſt of which he was elected in 1714. In this high ſtation he continued for above ten years, when he was carried off by an inflammation in his bowels, April the 30th, 1724, in the fifty-third year of his age. He was the author of ſeveral works; ſome of which were publiſhed in his life-time, and others after his death; the whole comprized in three volumes, 8vo.

FLINT.

FLINTSHIRE.

FLINTSHIRE, a county of North Wales, derives its name from Flint, the county-town. It is bounded on the north-weſt by the Iriſh ſea, on the north-eaſt and eaſt, by an arm of the Iriſh ſea, and the river Dee, which ſeparates it from Cheſhire; on the ſouth, by part of Denbighſhire; and by another part of Denbighſhire, on the weſt. This is the ſmalleſt of all the Welch counties, it extending about thirty-three miles in length, and only nine miles in breadth; and is about ſeventy in circumference. Caerwys, a market town nearly in the centre, is about 200 miles north-weſt of London.

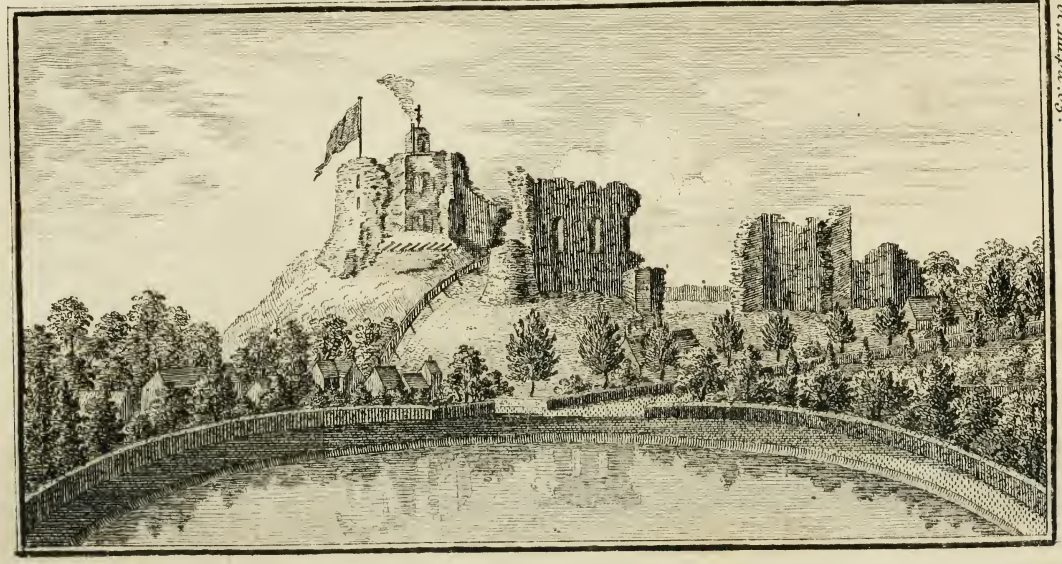
The air of this county is healthy and pleaſant, though cold, from its being expoſed to the north winds; and the land not being ſo mountainous, as in moſt of the other counties, is more fruitful; for the hills are not very high, and fall gently into fertile plains. Hence this county yields ſome wheat, and great plenty of barley, oats and rye, while the vallies afford paſture for black cattle, which, though very ſmall, are excellent beef. There are likewiſe fed ſome ſheep, and but few goats. Great quantities of butter and cheeſe are made in this county, which likewiſe produces much honey, from which the liquor called metheglin is made, and frequently drank in this and the neighbouring counties. Flintſhire alſo abounds with all ſorts of fiſh and fowl. It has great plenty of pit-

pit-coal, and the hills of this county yield mill-ſtones, and lead-ore, in great abundance. In ſinking ſome new coal-pits at Leeſwood, in the pariſh of Mold, near the river Alen, was diſcovered a flat ſort of ſlate, upon which are frequently found the leaves of ſeveral plants, delineated with as great exactneſs as an impreſſion of them, in plaſter of Paris or clay.

The principal rivers with which this county is watered, are the Dee, the Wheeler, the Alen, the Clwyd, and the Sevion. The Dee we have already deſcribed among the rivers of Cheſhire. The Wheeler riſes near Caerwys, and running weſtward falls into the Clwyd, almoſt oppoſite to Denbigh. The Alen riſes ſome miles ſouth of Ruthin in Denbighſhire, and running firſt a few miles north, afterwards directs its courſe eaſtward, and falls into the Dee, north of Wrexham in Denbighſhire. The courſe of the Clwyd has been already mentioned among the rivers of Denbighſhire. The Sevion riſes on the north ſide of Caerwys, and running to the weſtward, falls into the Clwyd, a few miles north-weſt of the city of St. Aſaph.

At Caergile in this county, about ſeven or eight miles ſouth by weſt of Cheſter, is a ſpring as clear as cryſtal, and yet it will turn whitiſh with oil of tartar; it alſo turns green with ſyrup of violets, and red with logwood. A gallon will yield 220 grains of ſediment, of which ſixty-ſix are earth, and 154 are ſea-ſalt and lime-ſtone. It appears to be impregnated with calcarious nitre and ſea-ſalt, and if drank to a quart or two, will purge pretty well. It has cured a woman that had a loathſome ſcurf all over her body, by drinking three pints of this water in a day. Likewiſe ſeveral children afflicted with ſcorbutick diſorders, and

The South East View of Hawarden Castle, *in the County of* Flint.



Vol. III. pa. 63.

and the leproſy have been cured by drinking and waſhing.

This county is divided into five hundreds, in which are contained one city, two market towns, about twenty-eight pariſhes, and ſends two members to parliament, one for Flint, and the other for the county. It is in the province of Canterbury, and partly in the dioceſe of St. Aſaph, and partly in that of Cheſter.

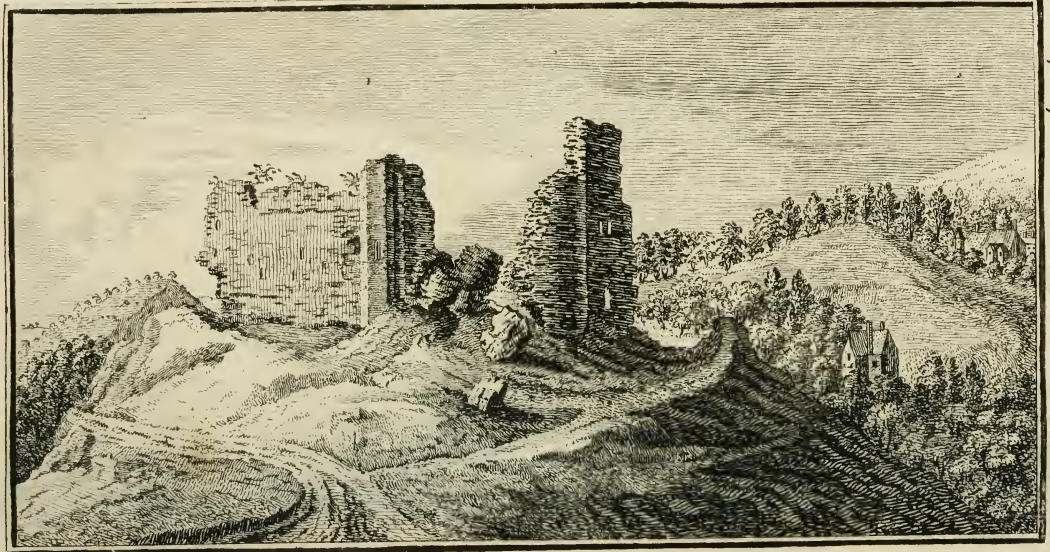
We ſhall enter this county by the road from Cheſter, where we find HAWARDEN, a village where there is a caſtle called by the Britons Penar Lâk, or Pennardha lawg, vulgarly Pennard y Las. It is ſituated ſouth of Flint, on the eaſtern limits of the county, five miles from Cheſter, near the banks of the Dee. It is uncertain who was its firſt founder. It was held by Seneſcalſhip of the earls of Cheſter, and was the ſeat of the barons of Mount-halt, or de Monte Alto, who were ſtewards of the Palatinate of Cheſter, and took their title from Mold (an abbreviation of Mont-hault) in this neighbourhood. Robert, the laſt baron of this family, for want of iſſue male, made it over to queen Iſabel, wife to king Edward the Second, and the poſſeſſion was afterwards transferred to the Stanleys, earls of Derby. It remained entire till about the year 1680; but now there are only the ruins of the walls; and of theſe we have given an engraved view. One part of them is upon a hill, and on them are built a ſmall ſtructure, perhaps deſigned for a proſpect into the adjacent country. They are now in the poſſeſſion of Sir John Glynne, Bart. the gardens of whoſe ſeat are adjoining thereto. There are three fairs here, on May 8, October 1, and December 24, for cattle.

In a ſmall part of this county, to the eaſt of the river Dee, and in a manner wholly divided from

from the reſt, and called the Engliſh Maelor, is a village named BANGOR, fourteen miles ſouth-eaſt of Hawarden. It was called by writers Bangor Monachorum, from a famous monaſtery, ſaid to be as old as the time of the Britiſh king Lucius. The writers of eccleſiaſtical hiſtory ſay, that the great monaſtery here produced the heretick Palagius, as he is reputed by ſome; though others look upon him to have been a very learned, ingenious and pious man. Gildar, alſo one of our moſt ancient Engliſh writers, was a monk in this abbey, and abbot in the year 600. This monaſtery, it is affirmed, was ſupplied with learned men, at the coming of St. Auguſtine into England. It ſtood in a valley, as Leland informs us, yet had a circumference like a walled town, with two gates, half a mile diſtant from each other. Bede acquaints us, that the number of monks in this monaſtery was ſo great, that when divided into ſeven parts, every part conſiſted of at leaſt 300 men. We have no account of the founder handed down to us, or of its revenues; but the laſt no doubt were very great. It was deſtroyed ſoon after Auguſtine came into England, becauſe the monks refuſed to ſubmit to his Romiſh ceremonies. However, at his inſtigation, Ethelfred invaded the Britons in Wales, who, coming againſt that prince, took the monks with them to pray for their ſucceſs: but Ethelfred being conqueror, killed above 1200 of them, naked and unarmed as they were. After this the monaſtery went ſo to decay, that William of Malmeſbury, who lived ſoon after the conqueſt, affirms, there was nothing here, in his time, but the ruins of churches, walls and gates, together with heaps of rubbiſh.

Six miles ſouth by weſt of Cheſter, and about four miles ſouth of Hawarden, is CAERGWRLEY, a village,

The North West View of Caergwrley Caſtle, *in the County of* Flint.



Vol. IIII pa. 67.

village, near which is Hope Caſtle, ſeated on the Alen, a ſmall river that empties itſelf into the Dee. It is in the pariſh of Eaſtyn, otherwiſe called Queen Hope. King Edward the Firſt in his grant, made in the tenth year of his reign to John earl of Warren and Surrey, of the lordſhips of Bromfield and Yâl, excepts out of it the caſtle and land of Hope, reſerving them to himſelf and his heirs, which before was part of Bromfield; which Griffith and Llewellyn, ſons of Madoc, held at the beginning of the war, either by themſelves or their guardians. Into this caſtle the ſaid king retired when the Welſh had ſurprized his army. It is now in the poſſeſſion of the earl of Derby.

Caergwrley has four fairs, namely, on Shrove-Tueſday, May 16, Auguſt 12, and October 27, for cattle.

Near the above caſtle, mill-ſtones are hewn out of the rock, and at a ſmall diſtance, a gardener digging, about the beginning of the laſt century, diſcovered a Roman hypocauſt, or hot-bath, hewn out of a ſolid rock. It was floored with brick, ſet in mortar, and roofed with poliſhed tiles, which in many places were perforated. This roof was ſupported by brick-pillars, and was furniſhed with tubes of the ſame materials, for carrying off the force of the heat. This hypocauſt was about eighteen feet in length, and fourteen in breadth; and by an inſcription upon ſome of the tiles, it appears to have been built by the twentieth legion, which was ſtiled Victrix, and lay in garriſon at Cheſter.

It has been commonly ſaid, that in the ſouth part of the county, which is watered by the little river Alen, there is a mountain, on which is a ſpring, that ebbs and flows at ſet times, like the ſea; but this wonder, if it ever exiſted, has now ceaſed;

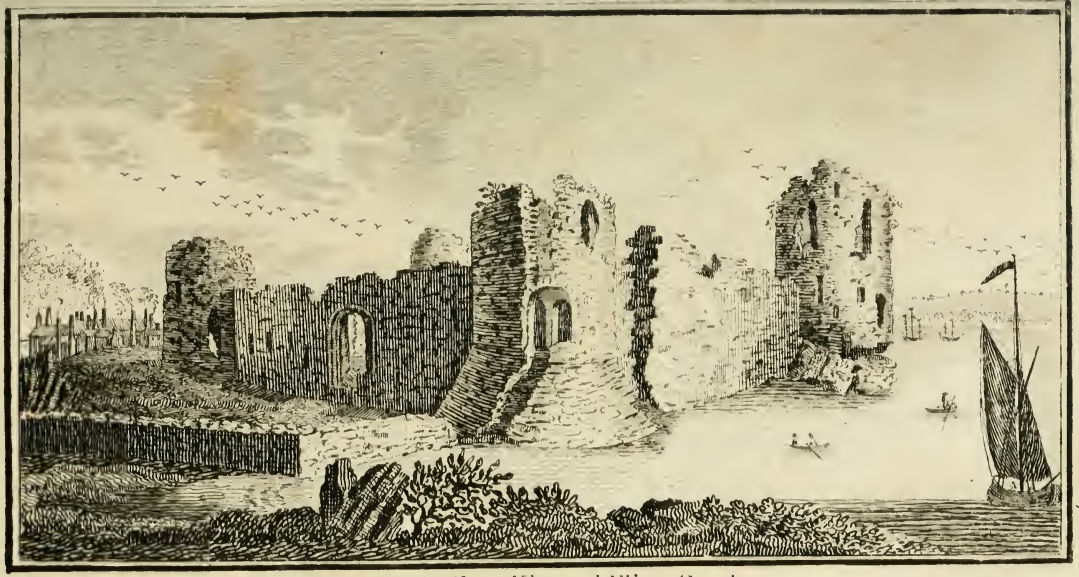
ceaſed; for after examination, it has been found that this ſpring at preſent, is like all others, and neither ebbs nor flows at particular times.

FLINT, the next town on the road, is ſituated twelve miles weſt by north of Cheſter, five eaſt of Holywell, and 201 north-weſt of London, and is commodiouſly ſeated on the eſtuary of the Dee, but is a ſmall place, governed by a mayor and burgeſſes, and ſends one member to parliament. It has four fairs, namely, on February 14, June 24, Auguſt 10, and November 30, for cattle.

Here is a caſtle begun by king Henry the Second, and finiſhed by king Edward the Firſt. King Richard the Second, on his return from Ireland, was for ſome time entertained here; but on his departure, was taken priſoner by Henry Bullingbroke, duke of Lancaſter, and not long after put to death. Formerly veſſels coming up the wide mouth of the river Dee, anchored under the walls of this caſtle. There have been, within the memory of man, rings in the walls to which ſhips uſed to be faſtened. The caſtle now belongs to the crown.

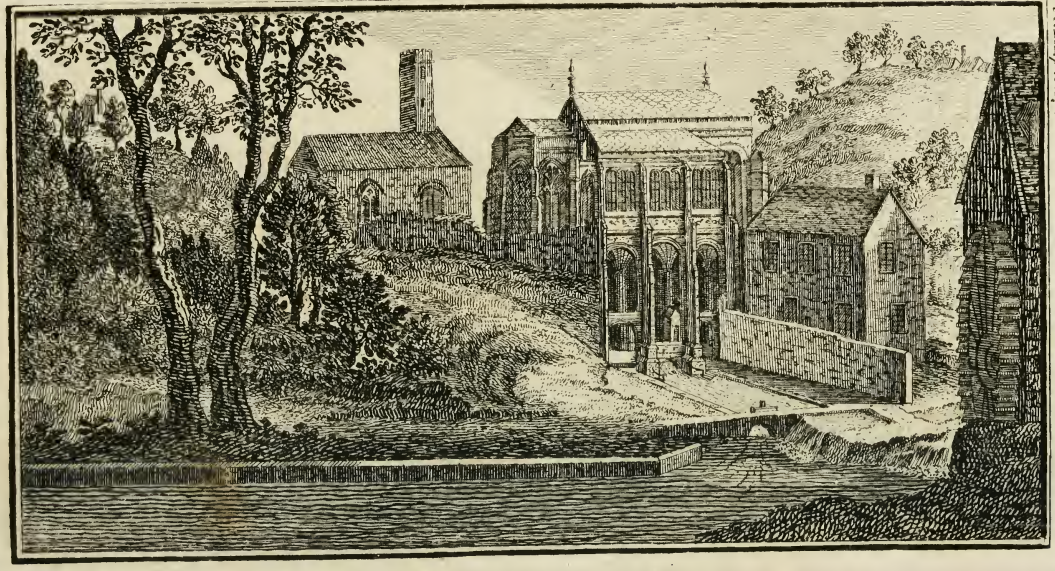
Five miles to the weſtward of Flint is HOLYWELL, a conſiderable town, conſiſting principally of one long ſtreet, in which there are not only ſeveral good inns, but many genteel houſes. It took its name from a celebrated ſpring, which, according to the Popiſh legends, it is ſaid roſe miraculouſly from the blood of St. Winefrid, a chriſtian virgin, who was raviſhed and beheaded in this place by a pagan tyrant. The water breaks out from a rock of free-ſtone with ſuch a rapid ſtream, as, within a ſmall diſtance, is able to turn ſeveral mills. Over the head of it, was built a chapel dedicated to St. Winefrid, by the monks of Baſingwerk, a place in the neighbourhood. In a window of the chancel was formerly to be ſeen

St.



The South East View of Flint Castle.

The North View of St. Winefred's Well *and* Chapel, *in the County of* Flint



St. Winefrid's ſtory, and her pretended reſtoration to life, by St. Beuno, painted on the glaſs windows of the chancel. The preſent ſtructure, of which we have given a view, was erected in the time of king Henry the Seventh, and conſiſts of very neat workmanſhip. The front is compoſed of a kind of ſmall pediment, ſupported by ſlender ſtone-pillars, under which the water flows, and on the inſide are ſeveral crutches, left as monuments by thoſe who received the uſe of their limbs by this water. The rapidity of the ſtream, and the great quantity of water it diſcharges, have cauſed ſome perſons to ſuſpect that it is a ſubterraneous rivulet, which the miners might have turned to that channel; it being their common practice, when they meet with currents under ground, to divert them to ſome ſwallow. And this is confirmed from an obſervation, that after much rain, the water often appears muddy; and ſometimes of a bluiſh colour, as if it had waſhed ſome lead mine, or proceeded from tobacco-pipe clay. To this it is added, that it ſeems to have happened, ſince the time of Giraldes, it not being likely, that ſo noble a fountain would have eſcaped his obſervation, had it then exiſted. However it appears, that it was not frequented by pilgrims at that time, nor at all celebrated for miraculous cures, or the memory of St. Beuno and Winefrid, tho' they lived about 500 years before Giraldus. Dr. Powel is of opinion, that the monks of Baſingwerk, which is within half a mile of this place, for their own private ends, firſt broached theſe fabulous miracles. This abbey was not founded till about 100 years after Giraldus, before whoſe time, no writer takes notice of the romantic origin and miracles of this fountain. Holywell has a market on Fridays, and three fairs, on April 23, Tueſday after Trinity-Sunday, and September 2, for cattle.

A

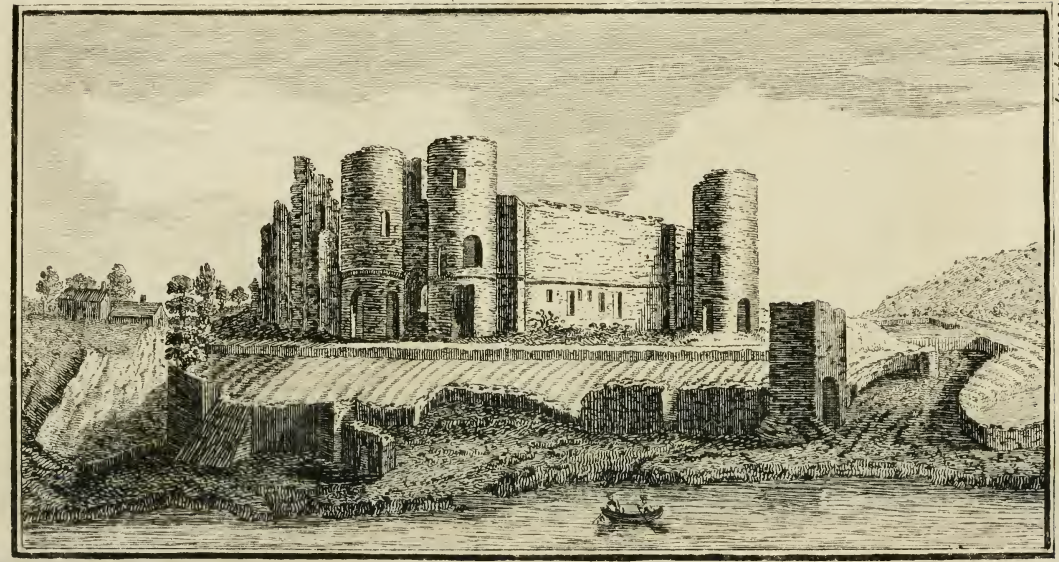
A little to the north of Holywell is MOSLYN mountain, on the moſt level part of which is a carved ſtone-pillar, eleven feet three inches in height above the pedeſtal, two feet four inches broad, and eleven inches thick. The pedeſtal is five feet long, four and a half broad, and about fourteen inches thick. The pillar is let through it, and reaches about five inches below the bottom; ſo that its whole length is about thirteen feet. When this monument was erected, or by what nation, it is hard to ſay; but ſome think it is a work of the Danes; and Dr. Plot, in his hiſtory of Staffordſhire, gives us the draughts of a monument or two, which agree very well with it in the chequered carving. There is another very like it, at Beau Caſtle in Cumberland, inſcribed with Runic characters, which is preſumed to have been a funeral monument. But the characters on the eaſt ſide of this, are nothing like the Runic, nor any letters hitherto taken notice of.

Within a furlong or leſs of this monument, is an artificial mount or barrow, and there are about twenty more in this neighbourhood, where there have been formerly diſcovered a great many bones; for which reaſon, this pillar has been ſuppoſed to be a monument of ſome ſignal victory; and the rather, becauſe, upon digging five or ſix feet under it, no bones were diſcovered, nor any thing elſe that might occaſion it to be thought ſepulchral.

Near Holywell is BASINGWERK, a village where Ralph earl of Cheſter, about the year 1131, founded a monaſtery, which was probably much improved, and converted into an abbey of Ciſtercian monks, by king Henry the Second, in 1159. It was dedicated to St. Mary, and at the time of the diſſolution, its revenues were valued, by Dugdale, at 150l. a year, but at 158l. by Speed.

Part

The South West View of Rhudland Castle, *in the County of* Flint.



Vol. III. p. 71.

Part of it is in ruins, but one end ſeems to be pretty entire, and over it is fixed a large croſs.

From Holywell the road runs weſtward to RHUDLAND, which is ſituated at the mouth of the river Clwyd, near eleven miles weſt of Holywell, and received its name from the reddiſh colour of the bank of the river on which it is ſeated. It had a very handſome caſtle built by Llwellin, ap Sitſilht, prince of Wales, before the Norman conqueſt, and was his chief palace, but it was burnt by Harold, the ſon of earl Godwin, in the year 1063. Robert de Rhudland, nephew and captain lieutenant to the earl of Cheſter, in the year 1098, took it from the Welſh, and fortified it with ſome additional works. Henry the Second afterwards repaired it, and beſtowed it on Hugh Beauchamp. The Engliſh parliament was held here, in the reign of Edward the Firſt, and the ſtatute of Rhudland is ſtill in force. In the twenty-firſt year of that king, John Roman was in full parliament condemned for excommunicating the biſhop of Durham, while he was in the king's ſervice. However, on his ſubmiſſion, he was fined 4000 marks to the king, and this fine, according to tradition, was given towards repairing the caſtle. Kind Edward the Second kept three chriſtmaſes here, and it now belongs to the crown. Great part of the walls are ſtill ſtanding, upon an eminence near the river. The reader will entertain a more perfect idea of the ruins of this ſtructure, by viewing the plate we have given of them, than by any verbal deſcription. Beſides this ſtructure, there was a priory of that name, which ſtands between St. Aſaph and the ſea, on the eaſtern bank of the river Clwyd, which is now in the poſſeſſion of Robert Davies, Eſq; It is not very far from the caſtle, and moſt of the walls are ſtill ſtanding; but it is put to no manner of uſe.

Rhudland

Rhudland is now but a mean village, though it was formerly a conſiderable town; for there is a gate at leaſt half a mile from the village. One of the towers in the caſtle is called Twr y Brenin, that is, the king's tower; below the hill, on the bank of a river, we find another, apart from the caſtle, called Twrhlod. Offa, king of Mercia, and Meredyth, king of Dyvid, died at the battle fought at Rhudland, in the year 794. It has no market, but has ſtill three fairs, held on the 2d of February, the 25th of March, and the 8th of September, all for cattle.

Below the caſtle, the river Clwyd falls into the ſea; and tho' the valley at the mouth of the river ſeems lower than the ſea itſelf, yet it has never been overflowed. Hence the ſhore deſcends gradually to the eaſtward.

Two miles ſouth-eaſt of Rhudland is ST. ASAPH, which derives its name from St. Aſaph, its patron ſaint, who was the ſecond biſhop of that ſee, and is called by the Welſh Lhan-Elwy, from its ſituation at the influx of the river Elwy, into the Clwyd. It ſtands in the rich and pleaſant vale of Clwyd, ſeventeen miles weſt by ſouth of Cheſter, and 212 north-weſt of London; but is at preſent more famous for its antiquity than either its largeneſs or beauty, it having but few good houſes. It was firſt founded by Kantegarn, biſhop of Glaſgow in Scotland, who being driven out of that kingdom, about the middle of the ſixth century, founded here an epiſcopal ſeat and monaſtery; and became the firſt biſhop of this ſee: but returning ſoon after into Scotland, he appointed St. Aſaph his ſucceſſor. There is no account of this monaſtery from the death of St. Aſaph, in 596, and indeed but very little of the biſhops, till the year 1143. We however find, that the church was burnt by Owen Glandower about the year 1402,

1402, but it was afterwards rebuilt by biſhop Redwan, in the reigns of Edward the Fourth, and Henry the Seventh, and by the biſhops David Owen and Henry Standiſh, in the reign of Henry the Eighth. The church is erected in the form of a croſs, and is 170 feet in length; and over it is a plain tower ninety-three feet high, ſtanding on four pillars. This town has a market on Saturdays, and four fairs, namely, on Eaſter-Tueſday, the 5th of July, the 16th of October, and the 26th of December, all for cattle.

On the confines of this county and Denbighſhire, where the mountains by a gentle declivity ſeem to retire, and afford an eaſier paſs into the vale, Camden is of opinion, the Romans built a ſmall city called Varis, which Antoninus places nineteen miles from Conovium. This he thinks is farther confirmed by its being now called Bod-Vari, which ſignifies the manſion of Varus; and there are the ruins of a city on a ſmall hill adjoining, called Moel y gaer, that is, the city hill. But the Annotator, though he does not deny, that Varis may be ſeated at Bod-Vari, yet he thinks Moel y gaer is but a ſlender confirmation of it. However it is certain, that place receives its name from the fortifications or entrenchments that are yet to be ſeen there; for the word Gaer or Caer, ſignifies ſtrictly only a wall, fortreſs or encloſure. This being prefixed to the names of Roman towns, becauſe they were fortified, has occaſioned many to ſuppoſe, the genuine ſignification thereof to be a town or city. This fortification is exactly round, and 160 paces in diameter; all round it, the earth is raiſed in the manner of a parapet; and almoſt oppoſite to the avenue, there is a kind of tumulus, or artificial mount.

At this Moel y gaer Howel Gwynedh, who ſided with Owen Glindower, againſt Henry the

Fourth, was beheaded. He was one who, for a long time, annoyed the Engliſh in his neighbourhood; but being at length taken by his enemies of the town of Flint and beheaded at this place, his eſtate was diſpoſed of to one Saxton.

On the eaſt ſide of the river Dee is a ſmall part of Flintſhire encompaſſed by Cheſhire, Shropſhire, and Denbighſhire, in which there are about four or five pariſhes, the principal is that of Hanmer, which extends about four miles in length, and near the ſame in breadth, and is divided into ſix townſhips. In this pariſh the face of the country is generally level, and the ſoil in ſome parts a deep clay, and in others dry and ſandy. The land is manured with lime and marle, and produces wheat, barley, oats, peas, and beans, and conſiderable quantities of cheeſe are made there. The inhabitants burn coal and turf, and the latter is dug up here in great abundance. The church, which is in the dioceſe of Cheſter, is dedicated to St. Chad, biſhop of Litchfield. It conſiſts of a nave, a chancel, and two ſide iſles. At the weſt end is a tower, with a clock and four bells, and there is no chapel of eaſe in the pariſh. The principal ſeats is Hanmer-hall and Redhall, both belonging to the family of the Hanmers. On the weſt ſide of the church is a ſchool, endowed with about 12 l. per annum, where the poor children of the pariſh are taught gratis. This pariſh belonged to the late Sir Thomas Hanmer, who was near thirty years knight of the ſhire for the counties of Suffolk and Flint, or for the borough of Thetford. In this venerable aſſembly he was ſoon diſtinguiſhed, and his powerful elocution and unbiaſſed integrity drew the attention of all parties. On the twelfth of queen Anne, in the year 1713, he was unanimouſly choſen ſpeaker of the Houſe of Commons; which office, at that time

time more particularly difficult, he discharged with becoming dignity, and declined all other honours and emoluments. At length withdrawing himself from public business, he prepared an elegant and correct edition of the dramatic works of Shakespeare, of which he made a present to the university of Oxford, where it was printed in quarto, with elegant engravings by Gravelot, at the expence of Sir Thomas, who died at his seat in Suffolk in the year 1746, and was interred in the above church, where a monument was erected to his memory.

GLAMORGANSHIRE.

THIS county received its name from a contraction of the Welch words Gwlad Morgan, or the county of Morgan, and is ſuppoſed to have been thus called from a prince of this part of the country, ſaid to have been killed 800 years before the birth of our Saviour; but ſome other writers derive the name from the word Mor, which, in the Britiſh tongue, ſignifies the ſea, this being a maritime county. It is bounded on the ſouth, and part of the weſt, by Briſtol channel; on the north-weſt by Caermarthenſhire; on the north by Brecknockſhire; and on the eaſt by Monmouthſhire; it extending forty-eight miles in length from eaſt to weſt, twenty-ſeven in breadth from north to ſouth, and 116 in circumference: Neath, a market town nearly in the centre of the county, is ſituated 168 miles weſt of London.

The air, in the ſouth part of Glamorganſhire, towards the ſea, is temperate and healthful; but the northern part, which is mountainous, is cold and piercing, full of thick woods, extremely barren, and thin of inhabitants; but the mountains ſerve to feed herds of cattle, and ſend forth ſtreams, which add greatly to the fertility of the other parts of the county. Indeed, between the mountains, there are ſome fertile vallies, which afford good paſture; for the level part being more capable of cultivation, produces remarkably ſweet graſs, and pretty large crops of corn. The mountains yield coals

coals and lead-ore; and the ſouth part is ſo fertile, pleaſant and populous, that it is frequently called the Garden of Wales.

About Cowbridge and Bridgend, in this county, the huſbandry is extremely imperfect, and entirely contrary to the moſt common ideas in more informed counties. Some farmers keep two, three, and four hundred ſheep, and yet are ſo ignorant as never to fold them; about Bridgend are many farms which conſiſt of a very light ſand, eſpecially near Cantillon, and yet no turneps are ſown. A gentleman farmer, who is at the ſame time a man of taſte, and an excellent author, obſerves, that a farmer from England, in the latter pariſh, ſowed two acres, and was at great pains to hoe them well, and keep them clean, but was greatly ridiculed by his ignorant neighbours, who really thought him mad, but were ſurprized at the quantity he gained, which he ſold by the ſack to all the neighbouring towns to vaſt profit.

The preſent huſbandry is this; they fallow and lime, which is done very cheap; the quantity they lay upon a cuſtomary acre, which is eighteen feet to the perch, is four or five curnocks, as they term them, each twelve hoops, and each hoop three pecks, conſequently 450 buſhels on an acre, which they burn on their lands ſo cheap as one ſhilling and two-pence a curnock; others, who purchaſe it, pay two ſhillings and ſix-pence or three ſhillings. They generally give three ploughings for wheat, ſow three buſhels on an acre, and reckon a middling crop from twenty-five to thirty buſhels. For barley they plough twice or thrice more, and think twenty-five buſhels a middling crop: of beans fifteen buſhels, but they never hoe them: for oats they never plough but once, and for peas twice. Sometimes they ſow clover, and feed their

hogs with it. They here employ oxen for moſt of the purpoſes of draught and tillage.

Few counties have a more advantageous ſituation than Glamorganſhire, for it lies along the Briſtol channel, and has many little ports, by which means the inhabitants have a ready maket at Briſtol for every thing, and on the weſtern ſide, about Neath and Swanſey, lies their vaſt copper, lead, and tin-works, in which above five hundred hands are employed, which neceſſarily occaſions a great conſumption. Theſe works were eſtabliſhed on account of the cheapneſs of coals and labour, for the copper and tin are brought over from Cornwall.

The principal rivers of Glamorganſhire are the Rhymny, the Taff, the Ogmore, the Avon, the Neath, and the Tavey. The Rhymny, or Remney, riſes on the borders of Brecknockſhire, and running ſouth-ſouth-eaſt, ſeparates this county from Monmouthſhire, and then falls into the mouth of the Severn, to the eaſt of Cardiff. The Taff has its ſource in Brecknockſhire, ſouth of Brecknock, and running ſouth-eaſt by Llandaff and Cardiff, falls into the mouth of the Severn, a mile or two ſouth weſt of the mouth of the Rhymny. The Ogmore riſes on the borders of Brecknockſhire, and taking its courſe to the ſouth, falls into Briſtol channel. The Avon riſes a little to the ſouth-weſt of the ſource of the Ogmore, and after winding to the weſt, turns ſouth-eaſt, and falls into the Severn ſea at Aberavon. The Neath, or Cledaugh, riſes in Brecknockſhire, and running ſouth-weſt, falls into the eaſt part of Swanſey bay. The Tavey riſes at the foot of the Black mountain in Brecknockſhire, and running ſouth-weſt, paſſes by Swanſey, and diſcharges itſelf into Swanſey bay.

The more inconſiderable rivers of this county are

are the Elay, the Ewenny, the Hepſey, the Melta, the Trawgath, the Duliſhe, and the Turch.

GLAMORGANSHIRE has but one mineral ſpring, and that is at Swanſey. This ſpring has an acid ſtiptic taſte like alum, though the predominant ſalt is a martial vitriol. It turns blue with vinegar, and will not curdle with milk. A gallon of this water yields forty grains of ſediment, of a highly acid, ſtiptic, vitriolic taſte, and a light brown colour, which will ferment with ſpirit of hartſhorn, and oil of tartar. It is good in looſeneſſes, and will ſtaunch blood externally in wounds.

At Newton, north-weſt of the mouth of the Ogmore, is a very remarkable ſpring, about eighteen feet in circumference, the water of which ſinks at high tide nearly to the bottom; and at the ebbing of the ſea it riſes almoſt to the brim. In order to account for this phoenomenon, it has been ſuppoſed, that at high water the air in the veins of the ſpring, not being at liberty to circulate, by its being pent up, the water is prevented from iſſuing out; but when the ſea retires from the ſhore, and frees theſe natural aqueducts from theſe obſtructions, the water is at liberty to iſſue thro' them.

Another curioſity of this county is in a promontory near Penriſe, the moſt weſterly point of Glamorganſhire, called Warmſhead-Point; it runs about a mile into the ſea, and at half flood, the iſthmus, which joins it to the main-land, is overflown, ſo that it is rendered a ſmall iſland. Near the extremity of this point, is a cleft or crevice in the ground, into which if duſt or ſand be thrown, it will be blown back again into the air; and if a perſon applies his ear to the crevice, he will plainly hear a deep noiſe, like the blowing of a large pair of bellows. Theſe phoenomenà are attributed to the undulatory motion of the ſea, under the arched and rocky hollow of the

promontory, which occaſions an alternate inſpiration and expiration of the air, through the cleft.

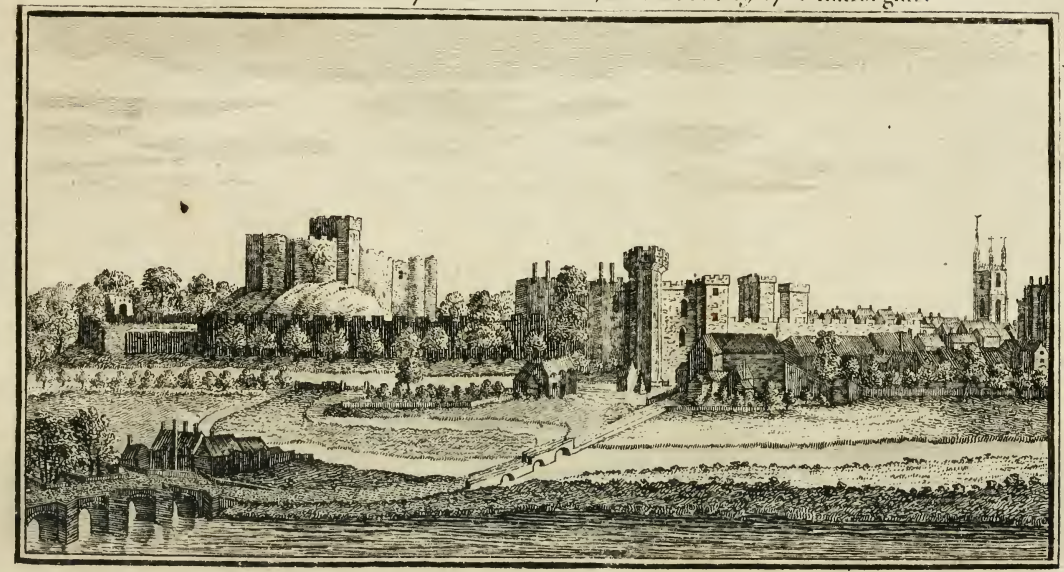
This county, in the time of the Romans, was part of the diſtrict inhabited by the Silures, and had ſeveral Roman ſtations. Thus Boverton, a few miles to the ſouth of Cowbridge, is ſuppoſed to be the Bovium of Antoninus; Neath to be his Nidum, and Loghor, to the weſt of Swanſey, to be his Leucarum.

This county, which lies in the province of Canterbury, and partly in the dioceſe of St. David's, and partly in that of Llandaff, is divided into ten hundreds, in which are contained one city, five market towns, eighteen pariſhes, about 9640 houſes, and 57,480 inhabitants.

We ſhall begin the deſcription of this county by entering it by the road, which leads from Glouceſter.

CARDIFF, or CAERDIFF, the firſt town on the ſouth eaſt of the county, is thirty-ſix miles ſouth-weſt of Monmouth, and 163 weſt of London. Its name ſignifies a city on the Taff, it being thus called from its ſituation on that river. It is a pretty large well built town, eſteemed the handſomeſt in all South Wales. It is ſeated in a rich and fertile ſoil, proper for corn and paſture; the ground about it is level; but at the diſtance of three or four miles, it is ſurrounded with pleaſant hills, that yield a delightful proſpect. There is a handſome bridge over the river Taff, to which veſſels of ſmall burthen may come up; and a commodious harbour, by which the inhabitants carry on a good trade to Briſtol, and other places. The houſes are well built, and the ſtreets clean and in good order. The town conſiſts of two pariſhes, though at preſent it has but one church; for the other, above a hundred years ago, was undermined by the river, and the greateſt part of it fell down. It is encloſed by a wall, which has four gates,

The North West View of Cardiff Caſtle, *in the County of* Glamorgan.



Vol. III. pa. 82.

gates, and has a caſtle, which is a large, ſtrong, ſtately edifice, the conſtable of which is always the firſt magiſtrate of the town.

This caſtle, together with the walls, was built by Robert Fitz Haimon, a Norman, about the year 1100, who held here his courts of juſtice, and kept a ſtrong garriſon, his twelve peers or knights being obliged to defend their ſeveral ſtations. In this caſtle Robert Curthoſe, eldeſt ſon of William the Conqueror, was impriſoned by his brothers till his old age, having firſt been deprived of his eyes, as well as of his hopes of the crown. It was taken by Maelgon, and Rhys Gryg, with prince Llewellyn's forces, in 1131. It is now a lordſhip, belonging to the right honourable the lord viſcount Windſor.

The town is an ancient corporation, governed by a conſtable, two bailiffs, twelve aldermen, twelve capital burgeſſes, a ſteward, a town-clerk, and other officers. This being the county-town, a court of record is held here every fortnight, of which the bailiffs, who are alſo juſtices of the peace, are the only judges; and the aſſizes for the county are always held here.

Without the eaſt gate is a large ſuburb, called Crockerton; where was a houſe of Grey Friars dedicated to St. Francis. Without the north gate ſtood the White Friars; and without the weſt gate is another ſmall ſuburb, adjoining to which was a monaſtery of Black Friars. In this town, Robert, earl of Glouceſter, who died in 1147, founded a priory. Cardiff has two markets, one on Wedneſdays, and the other on Saturdays, but that on Saturdays is the beſt, and is well provided with corn, horned cattle, ſheep, hogs, and all ſorts of proviſions. It has alſo three fairs, which are held on the 29th of June, the 8th of September, and the 30th of November, for cattle.

Eight miles to the north of Caerdiff, in a mooriſh bottom, not far from the river Rhymny, where it runs through places ſcarce paſſable among the hills, is ſeated the ancient borough of CAERPHYLY, which has a market on Thurſdays, and ſeven fairs, held on April 5, June 6, July 19, Aug. 25, Oct. 9, Nov. 16, and the Thurſday before Chriſtmas, for horned cattle, horſes, ſheep, hogs, and yarn ſtockings. Beſides the firſt Thurſday in March, and the firſt Thurſday in May called Great Markets.

This place is only remarkable for its ruinous caſtle, thought to be the nobleſt remains of ancient architecture now in Great-Britain; for in the judgment of ſome curious perſons, who have ſeen and compared it with the moſt famous caſtles of this kingdom, it exceeds all in bigneſs, except that of Windſor. The hall, or as ſome people think it the chapel, is a ſtately room, about ſeventy feet in length, thirty-four in breadth, and ſeventeen in height. On the ſouth ſide is an aſcent to it, by a ſtair-caſe, about eight feet wide, the roof of which is vaulted, and ſupported by twenty arches, which, as you aſcend, riſe gradually one above another. The entrance into the room from this ſtair-caſe is not in the middle, but ſomewhat nearer to the weſt end. Oppoſite to the ſtair-caſe, on the north ſide of the room, is a chimney about ten feet wide, on each ſide of which are two windows reſembling thoſe of churches, only they are continued down to the very floor, and riſe higher than the hall is ſuppoſed to have done; ſo that the room above the hall was enlightened by them. The ſides of theſe windows are adorned with ſculpture of leaves and fruit. In the walls, on each ſide of the room, are ſeven triangular pillars placed at equal diſtances. From the floor to the bottom of the pillars, is about twelve feet and a half. Each of theſe pillars is ſupported by three buſts, which vary alternately:

nately: for the firſt is ſupported by the head and breaſt of an ancient man, who has a beard, with two young men on each ſide, all with diſhevelled hair. The next has the face and breaſts of a woman, with a leſſer face alſo on each ſide; the middlemoſt, or biggeſt, has a cloth tied cloſe under the chin, and about the forehead: the ſmaller figures have folded cloths, but none under the chin, and all have braided locks. The uſe of theſe pillars ſeems to have been to ſupport the beams: there are alſo, on the ſouth ſide, ſix grooves or channels in the wall, at equal diſtances; theſe are about nine inches wide, eight or nine feet high; and four are continued from the tops of the pillars; but the two middlemoſt are about the middle ſpace betweeen the pillars, and come down lower than the reſt, having neat ſtones jetting out at the bottom, as if intended to ſupport ſomewhat placed in the hollow grooves. At the north ſide, near the eaſt end, there is a door about eight feet high, which leads into a ſpacious green, about ſeventy yards long, and forty broad. At the eaſt end there are two large arched doors, within a yard of each other; and there was a third near the ſouth ſide, but much larger; and another oppoſite to that on the weſt end. This was the ſtate of this room, at the time of the firſt edition of Gibſon's Camden; and the annotator was ſo very particular, that he might enable perſons to judge of the antiquity of the place, which, as far as he could meet with information, is beyond the reach of hiſtory.

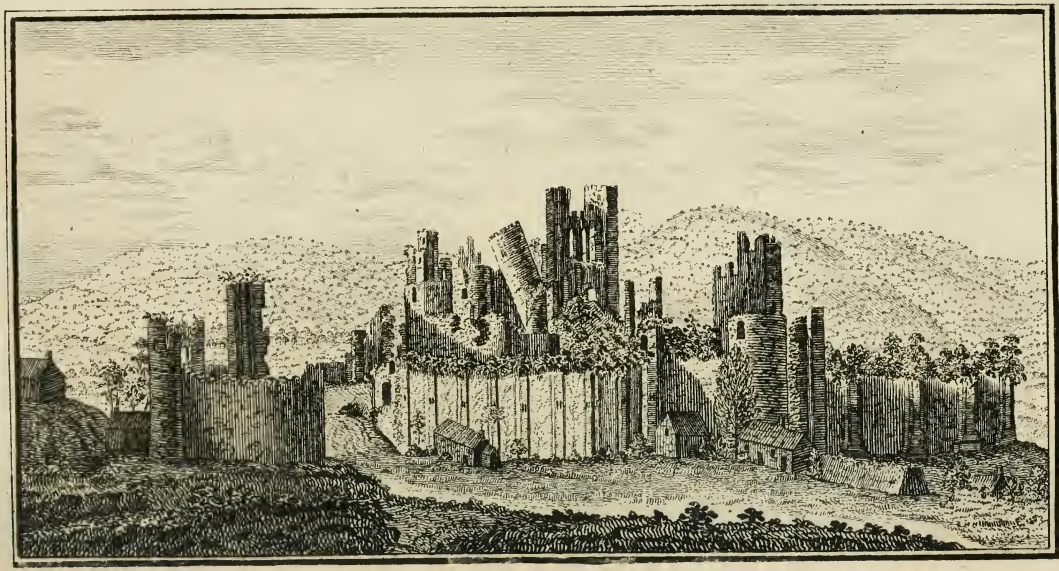
Among the many ſtupendous pieces, of which this vaſt pile of ruins is compoſed, is a large tower nearly towards the eaſt end, which every moment threatens deſtruction to the unwary paſſenger. Its height is not by a great deal ſo much as that of Piſa, in Italy, it being not above 70 or 80 feet at moſt;

moſt; but from the top down almoſt to the middle, runs a large fiſſure, by which the tower is divided into two ſeparate parts, ſo that each ſide hangs over its baſe, in ſuch a manner, that it is difficult to ſay which is moſt likely to fall firſt. According to the opinion of the ingenious Mr. Wood of Bath, who lay upon his back for ſeveral minutes to view this dreadful ruin, its lineal projection, on the outer ſide, is not leſs than ten feet and a half. What renders it ſtill the more remarkable is, that it has continued to project in this manner for many ages paſt; nor have we the leaſt account given us, either from hiſtory or tradition, how it firſt happened.

This caſtle, of which we have given an engraved view, repreſenting its preſent ſtate, is generally thought to have been originally built by the Romans, though it does not ſeem to have any reſemblance to their ſtyle of architecture; and beſides, almoſt all the Roman cities, or forts, afford either Roman inſcriptions, ſtatues, bricks, coins, arms, or other utenſils; but it does not appear that any ſuch things were ever diſcovered here. There have indeed been two coins found in this caſtle, one of which was ſilver, and the other braſs; but neither of them are either Roman or Engliſh, and therefore are probably Welch. That of ſilver is as broad, but thinner than a ſix-pence, and exhibits on one ſide the image of our Saviour, with a Latin inſcription, which ſignifies, Glory be to thee. On the other ſide the legend probably means, the money of the country of Gwynedh, that is, North Wales. The braſs coin is like the French pieces of the middle age.

On a mountain not far from Caerphyly, is a remarkable monument, known by the name of Y MAEN HIR; this is a rude ſtone pillar, of a kind of quadrangular form, about eight feet high. It

is



The South East View of Caerphily Caſtle, *in the County of* Glamorgan.

is not erect, but somewhat inclining, and close to its bottom, there is a small bank or intrenchment, inclosing the space of six yards, and in the midst of it is a square area. There is an inscription on the pillar in Welsh, which signifies, Mayst thou awake; from whence it is thought to be a funeral monument.

MORLASHE Castle is seated on the north-east edge of this county, fifteen miles north of Caerphilly, and not far from the road, which leads from Brecknock to Cardiff. This castle is now the property of the Lewis family, and by its ruins appears to have been a very strong place.

Turning back by the same road to Caerdiff, and proceeding two miles to the north-west of that town, you come to LLANDAFF, which signifies a church on the river Taff. This is a small place, seated in a bottom, 164 miles west of London, but is dignified with a bishop's see, and adorned with a cathedral, which is a fine structure. It was made a bishop's see about the year 490, by St. Jubricius, who was succeeded by St. Tilliau, to whom the church is dedicated. Bishop Urban, about the year 1120, rebuilt the church, with two towers at the west end, eighty-nine feet high, of which that at the south now remains, though two of its pinnacles were thrown down by the storm in 1703. The north tower was pulled down and rebuilt in an elegant manner, 105 feet high, in the reign of Henry the Seventh, at the expence of Jasper, duke of Bedford, but the pinnacles and battlements were demolished by the above-mentioned storm. The body of the cathedral has been lately rebuilt, and is 263 feet and a half in length from east to west: the distance from the west door to the choir is 110 feet: the length from the choir door to the altar is seventy-five feet; and the distance from thence to the farther

ther end of what is called St Mary's chapel, is ſixty-five feet. The body of this church is ſixty-five feet broad; and the height from the floor to the top of the compaſs-work of the roof is alſo ſixty-five feet; and to the top of the middle iſle, above the pillars fifty-four feet. The choir is very neat; but in this church there is no croſs iſle, as there is in all the other cathedrals in England and Wales; nor is there any middle ſteeple, as there is in all the cathedrals beſides, except Bangor and Exeter.

About three miles from the mouth of the river Taff, in the winding of the ſhore, is a ſmall iſland called SCILLY; and about three miles to the weſt of it, the iſland of BARRY, ſo called from St. Baruch, who is ſaid to have been interred there. Theſe iſlands are extremely pleaſant; and it is ſaid, that in the laſt-mentioned iſland, there is a narrow chink of a rock, to which, if you put your ear, you may hear a noiſe as if ſmiths were at work, ſometimes ſtriking with hammers, ſometimes blowing the bellows, and at others, grinding of tools and the like; but at preſent no ſuch ſounds are perceived, and probably never were, as we find no author who has aſſerted this upon his own knowledge.

Twelve miles weſt of Llandaff, and 175 from London, is COWBRIDGE, called by the Welch Pont-Van, from the ſtone-bridge over the river Ewenny, on which it is ſituated. It ſtands in a low bottom, in a fertile ſoil, and is a neat, clean, well built, and well paved town, where the juſtices keep their quarter ſeſſions for the county the week after Eaſter. It is governed by a bailiff, ſworn by the deputy conſtable of the caſtle of St. Quintin near adjoining, and has a well frequented market on Tueſdays, for corn, cattle and proviſions; and three

three fairs, on April 23, Auguſt 1, and October 18, for cattle.

About two miles ſouth-weſt of Cowbridge is LLANBLYTHIAN Caſtle, which is very ancient. It fell to the ſhare of Robert St. Quintin, one of the twelve knights who came along with Robert Fitz-Haimon into Glamorganſhire about the year 1092. He fortified it, but it had been built long before. It came ſince into the poſſeſſion of Sir William Herbert of Swanſey, Knt. and is now the property of the right honourable the lord viſcount Windſor. A great part of the walls are ſtill ſtanding, and it appears to have been built more for ſtrength than beauty.

At LLANCARVAN, about three miles from Cowbridge, St. Cadocus is ſaid to have built a monaſtery in the year 500.

And at EWENNY, which is alſo near Cowbridge, Sir John Londres built a Benedictine priory, which was given by Maurice de Londres in 1141, as a cell to Glouceſter abbey. The time of its foundation is unknown; but it appears to have been dedicated to St. Michael, and valued, at the ſuppreſſion of religious houſes, at 78 l. a year.

At LANTWITT, a village, alſo at a ſmall diſtance from Cowbridge, are the foundations of many buildings. This is ſaid to have been an ancient, large borough town, that had a market kept on Sunday mornings, which is now diſcontinued, but it has ſtill a fair on the 11th of June, for lambs. In the church yard of this village, and on the north ſide of the church, there are two ſtones erected, the firſt of which is near the church wall, of a pyramidal form, and about ſeven feet high. Is is adorned with old Britiſh carving, and at three ſeveral places, at equal diſtances, is encompaſſed with three circles. Theſe circular monuments

ments are ſuppoſed to have been temples of the Druids. This might have been thought ſuch, did it not differ from the old monuments, with regard to the carving. The other ſtone is alſo very much carved, and was once the ſhaft or pedeſtal of a croſs. On one ſide there is an inſcription, ſhowing that one Sampſon ſet it up, and on another, that it was dedicated to St. Ilhtub.

Eight miles north-eaſt of Cowbridge is LLANTRISSENT, which is ſeated in a hilly part of the country, and is an ancient borough, governed by a portrieve, who is ſworn by the deputy conſtable of the caſtle. It has a ſmall market on Fridays, and three fairs, held on the 1ſt of May, the 1ſt of Auguſt, and the 18th of October, all for cattle.

Five miles ſouth-weſt of Cowbridge near Naſh-point, ſtands ST. DONAT's Caſtle, the habitation of the ancient family of the Stradlings, near which there are dug up ſeveral ancient Roman coins, among which were ſome of Æmilianus and Marius, which are very ſcarce. This is ſeated on an eminence, having a fine park to the weſt, and on the ſouth pleaſant gardens, deſcending in terraſſes from the caſtle wall, to the Severn ſea. The firſt mention of it, made in hiſtory, is in the fifth of William Rufus, and in the year 1091, when Jeſtin ap Gurgan, the Britiſh prince of Morgannwg, by the treachery of Enion ap Cadiver, lord of Dyvet, loſt his life and territories, which were taken by the Normans. Their leader Fitz Haimon divided the country among the twelve knights, his aſſociates in this expedition; when this caſtle fell to the ſhare of Sir William Leigh Eſterling, otherwiſe Stradling; and it has been their family ſeat 648 years. But they becoming extinct, it is now in the family of the Manſels. It is very large, and makes a very good appearance, though the different parts of the ſtructure

are

The North West View of St Donats Castle, *in the County of* Glamorgan.

Vol. III. par. 80.

are extremely antique Of this ſtructure we have given a view.

At the diſtance of ſeven miles, north-weſt of Cowbridge, is BRIDGE-END, which is ſeated on the Ogmore. That river divides it into two parts, which are joined together by a ſtone bridge. It has a conſiderable market on Saturdays, for corn, cattle and proviſions; and two fairs, the firſt on Holy-Thurſday, and the other on the 17th of November, for horned cattle, ſheep and hogs.

ABERAVON is a town on the road from Bridge-End to Neath, and is ſeated on the river Avon, about two miles from the ſea. It is a borough town, about two furlongs in length, governed by a portrieve, but has neither market nor fair.

Four miles ſouth-eaſt of Aberavon is KYNFIG, where was formerly a caſtle belonging to Fitz-Haimon.

About two miles to the north-weſt is MORGAN, where Robert, earl of Glouceſter, in the year 1147, founded an abbey for Ciſtercian monks, dedicated to the Virgin Mary, which was valued at the diſſolution at 181 l. a year; but it is now a gentleman's ſeat.

On the top of a hill, called Mynydd-Margan, is a pillar of exceeding hard ſtone, about four feet high, and one broad, with the following inſcription in a rude character, BODVOCVS HIC JACIT, FILIVS CATOTIS, IRNI PRONEPVS ETERNALI VE DOMAV, *i. e.* Pronepos eternali in domo. The common people in the neighbourhood affirm, that whoever reads the inſcription will certainly die ſoon.

By the highway, ſouth of Morgan, is a monument of ſtone, with this inſcription: PVMPEIVS CARANTORIVS. This is doubtleſs the tombſtone of one Pompeius Carantorius, though the Welſh, by adding and altering ſome letters, read it thus:

PVMP.

PVMP. BVS. CAR. A'N. TOPIVS. or, The five fingers of our friend Killedus. They call it Bedh Morgan Morganwg, which ſignifies the ſepulchre of prince Morgan, and believe, that a prince named Morgan, who, they ſay, was killed 800 years before our Saviour's time, was buried here.

COYTY Caſtle is ſeated between the rivers Ogmore and Ewenny, three miles north of Bridge-End; and was given by Robert Fitz-Haimon, who conquered the country, to Sir Paine Turbeville, in the year 1091; and it is now in the poſſeſſion of the family of the Edwins. The ruins, of which we have given a view, ſhew it to have been a very large and ſtrong ſtructure.

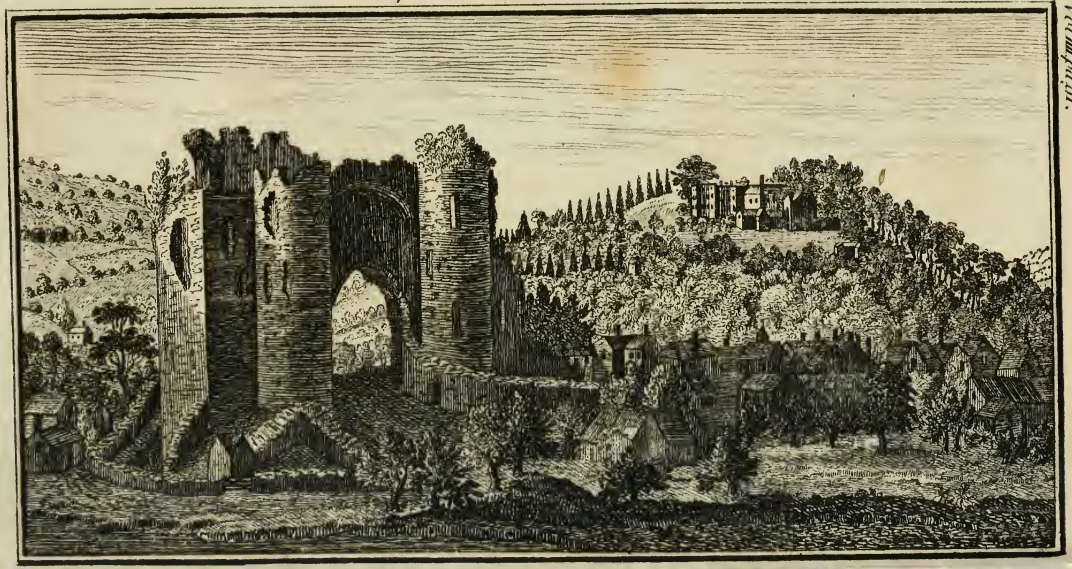
Eighteen miles north-weſt of Bridgend is NEATH, in Welſh *Nedh*, ſuppoſed by Camden to be the Nidum of Antoninus, and is now a place of ſome note, ſeated on a river of the ſame name, over which is a ſtone bridge, eight miles eaſt by north of Swanſey, thirty north-weſt of Llandaff, and 168 weſt by north of London. The caſtle here is very ancient, tho' we have no account when it was founded. It was, however, rebuilt about the year 1090 by Richard de Granville, one of the twelve Norman knights, who aſſiſted Robert Fitz-Haimon in the conqueſt of this country; and it was afterwards burnt in the year 1231 by prince Llewellyn. It is ſituated near the river Neath, and is the caſtle of the burrough and manor of Neath, formerly a lordſhip marcher, and was lately in the poſſeſſion of Herbert Mackworth, Eſq; who has a pleaſant ſeat, beautifully ſituated on an eminence near the ſaid caſtle.

Neath was formerly a place of greater extent than it is at preſent, tho' it is ſtill pretty large. It is governed by a portrieve, annually ſworn by the deputy conſtable of the caſtle of Neath. Small veſſels bring plenty of coals up to the bridge, to the

The South View of Coyty Castle, *in the County of* Glamorgan.

Vol. III. pag. 90.

The North West View of Neath Castle, *in the County of* Glamorgan.



the great advantage of the inhabitants. The market is on Fridays; and there are three fairs, which are held on Trinity-Thurſday, July 13, and September 12, for cattle, ſheep and hogs. Here Richard de Granville, and Conſtance his wife, in the reign of Henry the Firſt, built a Ciſtercian abbey on the river Neath, about half a mile from the town, and dedicated it to the Holy Trinity, and afterwards returned to England, where he had a plentiful eſtate. At the time of the diſſolution, its yearly value, according to Dugdale, was 132 l. but according to Speed, 150 l. There are only the ruins of ſome lofty walls ſtanding.

All the country from Neath to the river Locher, which is the weſtern limit of the county, is called by the Engliſh GOWER, but by the Welſh *Gwir*. In the reign of Henry the Firſt, the earl of Warwick ſubdued this country, which afterwards devolved to the crown. But king John beſtowed it on William de Breos, whoſe family held it till the time of Edward the Second. It is now divided into eaſt and weſt Gowerland.

The moſt noted town in this diſtrict is SWANSEY, or SWANZEY, which derives its name from Swine Sea, on account of the great number of porpoiſes, or ſea-hogs, found in Swanſey-bay; but it is called by the Welſh, Aber Tawi, from its ſituation at the mouth of the river Tavye, or Tawi. It is ſituated nine miles ſouth weſt of Neath, thirty-nine north-north-weſt of Cardigan, and 202 north by weſt of London. It is a large, clean, well built town, with an exceeding good harbour, where ſometimes a hundred ſhips at a time come in for coals and culm. This laſt is the duſt of the coal, which, when made up into balls, make a ſweet and durable fire, with little ſmoke. Swanſey carries on the greateſt trade of

any

any town in the county, particularly in coals, there being several large coal-pits in the neighbourhood; and from this place coals are sent both to Ireland, and to all the port-towns of Cornwall, Devonshire, and Somersetshire, which renders the inhabitants of the town and its neighbourhood rich and populous. It has two markets, held on Wednesdays and Saturdays; and five fairs, namely, on July 13, August 29, October 19, and on the two following Saturdays.

Swansey Castle was built by Henry Beaumont, earl of Warwick, about the year 1113; soon after which, Griffith ap Rhys ap Theodore, prince of South-Wales, came before it, and burnt down great part of the out buildings. It is the property of his grace the duke of Beaufort, lord paramount of Gowerland. Of this castle we have given a view. Part of it seems pretty entire, but one end of it is in ruins.

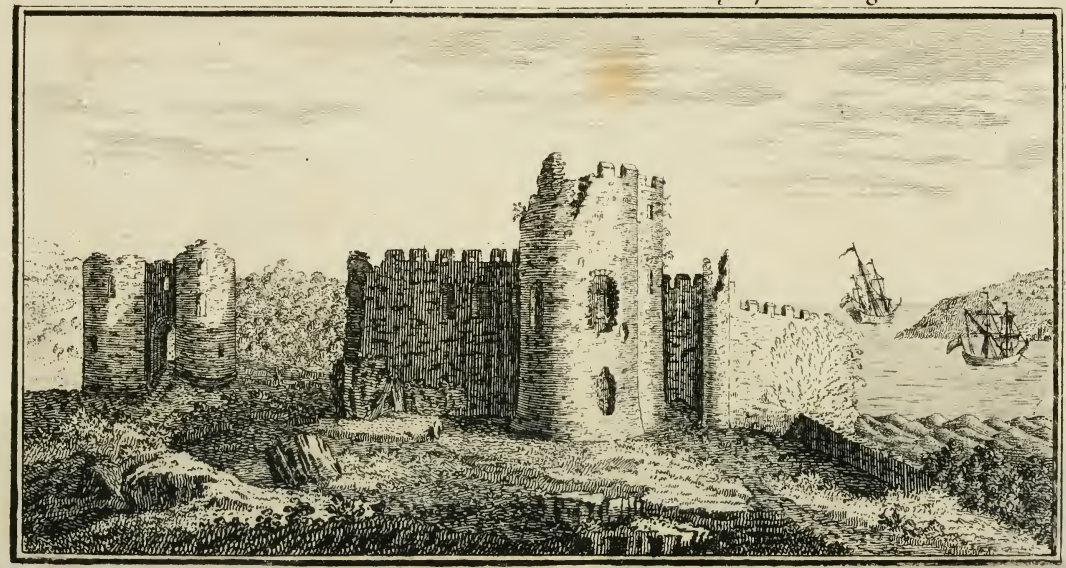
OYSTERMOUTH Castle, is finely situated on an eminence near the sea, five miles south by west of Swansey, and has, with the lordship thereunto belonging, been almost constantly the property of the lords of Gower; the first of which lords were the Beaumonts, earls of Warwick; and by them it was conveyed to the crown. King John gave it to the Breoses, lords of Brecon: from them it came by marriage to the noble family of the Mowbrays: from thence to the Herberts, and by marriage of an heiress to the noble family of the Somersets, in which it is now vested in the person of his grace the duke of Beaufort. Some of the walls are still standing, which shew that it has been a place of great strength; and of these we have given a view.

PENNARTH Castle is seated in Oxwich bay, eight miles south-west of Swansey, and has, with the

Vol. III. Fol. 92.

The East View of Swansea Castle, *in the County of* Glamorgan.

The North West View of Penrise Castle, *in the County of* Glamorgan.



Vol. III, pag. 93.

the lordſhip belonging thereto, always been in poſſeſſion of the lords of Gower, and now belongs to the duke of Beaufort. It was deſigned for a place of ſtrength, as appears from the walls, moſt of which are ſtill ſtanding.

PENRISE, or PENRYSE, is ſituated near the weſt ſide of Oxwich-bay, twelve miles weſt by ſouth of Swanſey; and has a market on Thurſdays, with four fairs, which are held on May 17, July 17, September 17, and December 1, for cattle, ſheep, and hogs. The caſtle takes its name from the family of Penriſe, who firſt made it their ſeat. It came to the Manſels by the marriage of Iſabel, daughter and heireſs to Sir John Penriſe, knight, who deſcended from Phillip, who attended William the Conqueror into England; and whoſe poſterity ſettled in this county in the time of king Edward the Firſt. It is now the property of the right honourable the lord Manſel of Margam. It has been a ſtrong place, as appears from the remains, which are conſiderable, and of which we have given a view. Indeed it appears to be a handſomer ſtructure than ſeveral other caſtles in theſe parts.

On a mountain, called Kevn-Bryn, about two or three miles to the north of Penriſe, is a monument, conſiſting of a rude ſtone of a prodigious ſize, called Arthur's Stone, ſuppoſed to weigh upwards of twenty tons, and yet is ſupported by a circle of ſix or ſeven other ſtones, each about four feet high. Theſe are all of the mill-ſtone kind.

WEBLY Caſtle is ſeated on an eminence by Wormſhead point, in Weſt Gowerland, eighteen miles weſt of Swanſey; this is a compact ſtructure, that ſeems to be entirely built for ſtrength; the

the greater part of it, if not all, is ſtill ſtanding, and now belongs to the lord Manſel.

LLWGHOR is a town on the borders of Caermarthenſhire, and was formerly a conſiderable place, fortified by a caſtle, which is now in ruins. It is governed by a portrieve, and is thought, by Camden, to be the Leucarum of Antoninus; but it has at preſent neither market nor fair.

GLOCESTERSHIRE.

GLOCESTERSHIRE, or GLOUCESTERSHIRE, obtained its name from the city of Gloceſter, the Colonia Glevum of the Romans, and is bounded on the north by Warwickſhire, Worceſterſhire, and part of Herefordſhire; on the eaſt by Warwickſhire and Oxfordſhire; on the ſouth by Wiltſhire and Somerſetſhire; and on the weſt by Monmouthſhire and Herefordſhire; it extending about fifty-ſix miles in length from the north-eaſt to the ſouth-weſt, and about twenty-two in breadth from the north-weſt to the ſouth-eaſt, and 156 in circumference. The city of Gloceſter, which is nearly in the centre, is 102 miles north-weſt of London.

The Romans, ſoon after they ſettled in Briton, took poſſeſſion of theſe parts, and called the people Dobuni. The Saxons, who have ſucceeded the Romans, named the inhabitants about the Severn Wiccwi, from the Saxon word Wic, which ſignifies the creek of a river; but ſoon after, this county was called Glouceſterſhire, as we have already obſerved, from the old Latin word Glevum, to which they added ceſter.

During the Saxon heptarchy, this county was long ſubject to the Weſt Saxons, but was afterwards included in the kingdom of Mercia, whoſe king uſually reſided at Tamworth in Staffordſhire. Under the Engliſh monarchs, it was miſerably harraſſed by the Danes, whoſe general was Gurman.

man. This county alſo ſuffered much in the civil wars, between queen Maud and king Stephen. In the reign of king Henry the Second, they were much harraſſed by the incurſions of the Welch; and in the barons wars they ſided with the barons.

The air of this county is in every part of it extremely healthful, though in other reſpects very different; for that part called Coteſwold, being a hilly country, has a very ſharp and piercing air, while that in the lower lands, called the Vale, is ſoft and mild, even in winter. Indeed, ſuch is the difference, that the inhabitants here ſay, that in Coteſwold, eight months in the year are winter, and the other four, too cold for ſummer; but that in the Vale, eight months are ſummer, and the other four too warm for winter. The ſoil is, in general, extremely fertile, and capable of producing all ſorts of corn, with all the fruits proper for the climate; for here, even the highways abound with fruit-trees, which grow in the hedges; and formerly there were plenty of vineyards, whoſe grapes were extremely good; and ſome have aſſerted, that the wine made of them was little inferior to that of France.

The principal rivers of this county are the Severn, the Wye, the Stroud, and the two Avons. The word Severn, is doubtleſs a corruption of Sabrina, the name given to this river by the Romans. The Severn, which is generally eſteemed the ſecond river in England, riſes on the eaſt ſide of a high mountain called Plyn Lymmon, in the ſouth-weſt part of Montgomeryſhire; from whence, by various windings, it runs north-eaſt, and enters Shropſhire, where, being joined by many ſmaller ſtreams, it runs ſouth-eaſt thro' that county and Worceſterſhire. It enters Gloceſterſhire at Tewkſbury, whence, running ſouth-weſt, by the city of Gloceſter, it continues its courſe in that direction, till

till it falls into the Briſtol channel. The tide flows up the Severn as far as Tewkſbury, which is near ſeventy miles from the ſea, and from Newnham upon this river, which is upwards of fifty miles from the ocean, it has more the appearance of a ſea than a river; the flood tide advances with ſuch impetuoſity, that in one ſwell, it ſometimes riſes near four feet.

The Wye, which, in the ancient Britiſh tongue, is ſaid to ſignify a river or water, riſes within half a mile of the ſource of the Severn, and flowing ſouth-eaſt, ſeparates Radnorſhire and Brecknockſhire from each other; then running through Herefordſhire, and parting Monmouthſhire from Gloceſterſhire, falls into the mouth of the Severn, about three miles to the ſouth of Chepſtow, in Monmouthſhire.

The river Stroud riſes two or three miles to the eaſt of Painſwick in this county; and taking a circuit of no great extent, falls into the Severn, about ſix miles below Gloceſter. No part of this river was made navigable till the year 1730, when it was rendered ſo by act of parliament, from Stroud to its conflux with the Severn. The water of this river is remarkably clear, and is ſaid to have ſuch a peculiar property in dying ſcarlet, and other grain-colours, that no other water can give them ſo fine a gloſs. This has induced the clothiers to ſettle along its banks, for twenty miles together, and to erect upon them a vaſt number of fulling-mills; ſome of theſe clothiers uſed formerly to make a thouſand pieces of cloth a year each.

The Upper Avon riſes in Northamptonſhire, and running through Warwickſhire, ſeparates Gloceſterſhire from Worceſterſhire, till it falls into the Severn, near Tewkſbury.

The Lower Avon, alſo diſtinguiſhed by the name of Avon-Weſt, riſes near Tetbury, on the borders of Wiltſhire, and ſeparating Gloceſterſhire from Somerſetſhire, falls into the Severn near Briſtol. This river abounds with a ſort of fiſh called Elvers, which are of the ſize of ſmall needles, and ſeem to be young eels. Of theſe the fiſhermen take great quantities, and make them into cakes with eggs, which being fried, in ſome people's opinion, are a great delicacy. This river flows through a deep channel for about two miles, from the Hot-well near Briſtol, towards King Road; and the rocks on each ſide are rough, craggy and romantick in their appearance. Many of them are very high, and repreſent rude, groteſque figures which have a very agreeable appearance. The cliffs hang over in ſome places, in a very aſtoniſhing manner, and many of them are covered with little ſhrubs, tall plants, tufts of graſs, and clumps of ſhort trees, in ſuch a manner, that they appear like little hanging woods, which afford a proſpect perhaps no where elſe to be found in the kingdom.

Gloceſterſhire has but one medicinal water, which is at Cheltenham, a town in the road from Gloceſter to Warwick. It was not much taken notice of before the year 1740, and then it was ſaid to be the beſt purging water in England; but it begins now to be neglected. It is limpid, a little brackiſh, and nauſeouſly bitter. It will curdle with ſoap, and lets fall a white grumous ſediment, with the ſolution of ſalt of tartar, and with the ſpirit of ſal ammoniac. It will ferment with oil of vitriol, ſpirit of ſalt and vinegar; beef and mutton boiled therein will become of a pale red, and it turns of a deep green with ſyrup of violets. A gallon will yield 688 grains of ſediment, which contains a little impalpable earth,

mixed

mixed with a little ſalt, which is chiefly calcarious, and has a nauſeous bitter taſte. The doſe is from one pint to three or four, nor is it ever attended with gripes, but creates a keen appetite. It has been uſed with ſucceſs in the gravel, and will cure old ſcorbutick humours, St. Anthony's fire, and ſtrumous inflammations of the eyes.

Gloceſterſhire is divided into three parts, Coteſwold, the Vale, and the Foreſt of Dean. Coteſwold, which borders on Warwickſhire, Oxfordſhire, and Berkſhire, is not very fertile, but is proper for feeding multitudes of ſheep, whoſe wool is very fine, and in high eſteem. This renders it a cloathing county, and it has many towns, entirely employed in that trade. It has been computed, that 50,000 pieces of cloth have been annually made in this county, and the number of ſheep, at one time, have been eſtimated at 4000.

The Vale is in the middle part, and is a fertile plain, that extends on both ſides the river Severn; and in this part of the county the cheeſe is made, which is ſo much in requeſt, and is ſo well known in London by the name of Gloceſterſhire cheeſe; though it muſt be owned, that the cheeſe of other counties are often ſold inſtead of it.

The Foreſt of Dean lies in the weſtern part of the county. This is of a triangular form, included between the Wye, the Severn, and the ſmall river Leden. It contains 30,000 acres, is twenty miles long, and ten broad, and was anciently over-run with woods. The oaks that grow where the wood is ſtill preſerved, are reckoned the beſt in England; and from this foreſt moſt of the timber formerly employed in ſhip building was brought, which was ſo well known to the Spaniards, that when they fitted out their Armada in 1558, to invade England, thoſe who had the direction of that expedition were expreſsly ordered

to deſtroy this foreſt, as the moſt effectual way to ruin our marine. But ſince the diſcovery of many mines of iron, and the paſſing of ſeveral acts of parliament for erecting forges for the working them, theſe woods became gradually reduced; and ſeveral towns and villages have been built in the foreſt, where the manufacture of iron is carried on. However, in the reign of Charles the Second, an act was paſſed, impowering certain perſons to incloſe great numbers of trees for the preſervation of the timber; and ſome years ago many cottages, which had been built in and near the woods, were ordered to be pulled down, becauſed the inhabitants damaged the trees, by lopping them for fuel. As foreſts are the property of the crown, the king has a large and ſtrong building in the midſt of this foreſt, where there is a ſwanimote court, to preſerve the vert and veniſon. It is called the Speech-houſe, and the judges of it are the verdurers, choſen by the freeholders of the county. The miners have alſo a court in this foreſt, which is directed by a ſteward, appointed by the conſtable of the foreſt, and juries of miners, who have their particular laws and cuſtoms, by which they are governed, determine all differences and diſputes that ariſe between them.

It ought not to be omitted, that at Taynton near Newent, on the northern borders of this foreſt, a gold mine was diſcovered about the year 1700, of which a leaſe was granted to ſome refiners, who extracted ſome gold from the ore, but did not go on with the work, the quantity of gold being ſo ſmall, as not always to anſwer the expence of the ſeparation.

On the Gloceſter ſide of the Lower Avon is Durdham Downs, which are large and extenſive, abounding in the ſame ſort of rocks as thoſe which bound

bound the Avon by the Hot-well near Briſtol. Theſe do not conſiſt of common ſtone, for when they are freſh broken, they diſcover variety of colours, and all their particles are bright and ſhining; inſomuch that ſome affirm, they approach to the nature of granite. They have alſo particles of mundic, beſides thoſe of talc, which occaſions them to glitter. Hence it is very probable, that there are ſome ſort of mines there, which may be either of copper, tin or lead, becauſe mundic is never found, except in thoſe places where there is ſome ſort of metal. Add to this, that all the earth about Clifton, and the Downs, is full of this ſulphureous ſubſtance; for the very duſt of the road ſhines and glitters, when the ſun is not covered with clouds. If a quantity of this duſt be taken up and examined with the microſcope, there will be found ſpangles of coloured talc, ſeveral little ſquare pieces of mundic, and other irregular fragments mixed with the ſand.

The largeſt rocks upon theſe Downs conſiſt of lime-ſtone, ſo called from their burning it into lime. It ſeems to be a ſort of marble, harder than the common ſort, and of a cloſer grain; it takes a good poliſh, and looks very beautiful, as appears from the chimney-piece in the pump-room at the Hot-well at Bath. There is ſome variety in the colour, but it is generally dark and duſky, with a tinge of blue; but ſome is almoſt black, ſtreaked or ſpotted with white.

There are ſtones in the quarries of this country, all of which grow in looſe pieces, though laid near each other; they are of various ſizes, from a foot ſquare to four or five. They never riſe perpendicular, but are all ſlanting, ſome one way and ſome another. They are generally of the colour of a bluiſh ſlate or lead; but in ſome quarries they are browniſh, and in others grey, and they

all burn to excellent lime. Theſe ſtones are uſed for building houſes and walls, and in country places they ſerve for enclosures.

In the fields about Badmington, there are found cylindrical ſtones, and bullets, almoſt as big as cannon balls; and on the hills, about Algelly, ſtones are conſtantly met with, reſembling cockles and oyſters. On the north ſide of Tetbury there is a ſpring, which within forty paces of the place where it riſes will encruſt ſticks, and other things, with ſtone.

Iron ore is frequently met with among theſe rocks; this is often very rich; but the want of wood, in this part of the county, prevents farther inquiries. Some of this ore is ſtoney, and another looks like ruſty iron, which is greatly eſteemed in the German mines. Many lumps that are broken from the large bed of iron ore, that are found among theſe rocks, diſcover a great variety of colours; but moſt of them are reddiſh; however, there are ſome brown, and a great many crimſon and yellow; beſides which, there is a remarkable ſort like ſpar, only it is yellower, heavier, tranſparent and compoſed of flakes. This in Germany will yield thirty pounds of iron in the hundred. There are other pieces of ore that are like emery, and others again that ſtain the fingers, and are gloſſy, reddiſh and bright when broken. Some pieces are ſtreaked, and very beautiful on the outſide, repreſenting what is commonly called the blood ſtone. In ſome there are cluſters of cryſtal, and ſpars of various forms.

The remarkable earths found in theſe parts are chiefly two, and they are both of the nature of oker, the one being red, and the other yellow. They are very brittle, and often crumble to duſt in the places where they lie; they both ſtain the fingers very much, when they are touched. The

red

red is between crimſon and purple, and the yellow is of a fine gold colour; they both make a very good paint when ground with oil, and much better than the common ſorts. Beſides theſe, there is a deep red ſort, that is in greater plenty, but not ſo fine, and another that is yellow, which is ſo light, that it may be blown away with the breath; however, it ſtains more than the other, and is as fine as hair powder. It is of a lemon colour, and like the French oker, but finer.

There are two different ſorts of ſubſtances found in the crevices of rocks, and the hollows of ſtones, known to the naturaliſts by the name of cryſtal and ſpar. They are both clear and tranſparent, and in angulated forms; one end is generally fixed to the ſtone, the other pointed or ſharp, and they commonly grow in cluſters. Some are very clear, bright and hard, and others are muddy, ſofter and leſs gloſſy; the firſt of theſe are cryſtals, and the latter ſpars. Cryſtals will cut glaſs, and undergo no change in the fire, unleſs the heat be very violent, and then they will change into glaſs; but the ſpars will not ſo much as ſcratch glaſs, and in the fire they will preſently calcine to lime.

Thoſe called Briſtol ſtones, are of the cryſtal kind, and are generally perfectly tranſparent and colourleſs, except ſome that are a little whitiſh, but theſe are not common. They have a natural poliſh, and may be ſet in rings without farther trouble, except ſeparating them from each other. There are large quantities of theſe in the clefts of rocks and cavities of ſtones, eſpecially in thoſe where there is iron ore. People make it their buſineſs to dig for them and ſell them, for the embelliſhment of grottos and the like. Some of theſe ſtones reſemble table diamonds, and others have the appearance of roſe diamonds. In ſome

parts about Clifton they are very ſmall, ſhort and numerous; but about King's Weſton the cluſters riſe higher, and are more irregular; but they have a pretty romantick look. Though they generally adhere to the rock at one end, yet there are ſome that lie flat, growing to the ſtone by one ſide, and theſe are pointed at both ends.

At Laſſington near Gloceſter, on the ſide of a hill, as well as in other places, are found ſtar ſtones, called Aſtroites, which are very beautiful. Some authors tell us as a wonder, that they have a motion when put in vinegar, the reaſon of which is very obvious; for there being a fermentation between the acid of the vinegar, and the alkali of the ſtone, there muſt needs be a motion produced, eſpecially as the aſtroites are ſmall, and conſequently may eaſily be diſturbed.

With reſpect to the method of agriculture uſed in this county, about North-Leach, they ſow much ſaintfoil; they prepare for it by turnips, and mow it every year for about ten, generally getting a ton, or a ton and a half of hay per acre for it. With reſpect to the roads, that from Gloceſter to Newnham, which is twelve miles, tho' it has the name of a turnpike, is moſt ſhamefully rough and ſtony. This line of country is hilly and pictureſque, for the road runs all the way by the Severn, which has a bold ſhore, finely wooded, and breaks upon the view in a very pleaſing manner, for the land is good, well cultivated, and all incloſed.

Among the ſingular plants that grow wild in this county, are,

Elegant broad-leaved imperforate St. John's wort, *Androſæmum campoclarenſe* Col. *Matthioli*, Park. On St. Vincent's rock near Briſtol.

Marſh aſparagus, or ſperage, *Aſparagus paluſtris*, Ger. In Appleton-meadow, about two miles from

from Briſtol; where the country people gather the buds or young ſhoots, and ſell them in the markets at Briſtol, much cheaper than our garden-kind is ſold in London. This ſhould ſeem rather to be the common or manured aſparagus growing wild, than the maritime, which differs from it, though growing in the ſame place, in having thicker leaves, and a better taſte.

The box-tree, *Buxus arboreſcens*, Park. *Buxus*, Ger J. B. At Boxwell in Coteſwold.

Daiſy-leaved ladies-ſmock, *Cardimine pumila bellidis folis alpina*, Ger. Found by Mr. Newton on St. Vincent's rock near Briſtol.

Spleenwort or Miltwaſt, *Ceterach*, *ſive aſplenium & ſcolopendria*. Plentifully about St. Vincent's rock, among the heaps of ſtones, and on many walls about Briſtol.

Small autumnal hyacinth, *Hiacinthus autumnalis minor*. On St. Vincent's rock.

Engliſh ſea-tree mallow, *Malva arborea marina noſtras*, Park. On an iſland called Dinney, three miles from King's-road, and five miles from Briſtol, *Park*.

Rock-parſley, *Peucedanum minus*, Park. C. P. Phytop, *pumilum*, Ger. *Peucedani facie puſilla planta*, Lob. *Selinum montanum pumilum Cluſii*, *foliis fæniculi aut peucedani*, *flore albo*, *ſemine Selini*, J. B. On St. Vincent's rock near Briſtol.

Wild-madder, *Rubia ſylveſtris*, Park. On St. Vincent's rock. This hath been miſtaken for the common manured madder, from which it is ſpecifically diſtinct.

Small ſengrene of St. Vincent's rock, *Sedum minus è rupe St. Vincentii*. The title directs to the place.

Knobby-rooted anemony or wind-flower, *Anemone tuberoſa radice*, Phyt. Brit, ſaid by Mr. Hea-

ton to grow on Cotefwold-hills near Black-Burton, and to be a great ornament to thofe barren hills.

Alexanders, *Hippofelinum*, Ger. emac. *Hippofelinum feu fmyrnium vulgare*, Park. On the rocks at Bechley going down to Aft-ferry.

Finely cut annual mountain creffes, *Naftur tium montanum annuum tenniffime divifum*. St. Vincent's rock, near Goram's chair in the parifh of Henbury, three miles from Briftol. It is fomething agreeable to the *Naftur tium alpinum tenuiffime divifum feptimum*, C. B.

This county is in the province of Canterbury, and is a Diocefe of itfelf. It is divided into thirty hundreds, and contains one city, and twenty-five market-towns, in which are contained 280 parifhes, 26,760 houfes, 162,568 inhabitants, who are repref nted in parliament by eight members, two knights of the fhire for the county, two members for the city of Glouceffer, two for the borough of Cirenceffer, and two for Tewkfbury.

We fhall enter this county by the road from London to Glouceffer, where we firft find LECHLADE, a town on the confines of Berkfhire and Oxfordfhire, feventy-fix miles from London. It takes its name from the piece of ground on which it ftands, formerly called the Lade, and the Lech, a fmall river that runs near it. The Thames, after having been encreafed by receiving the ftreams of the Lech, the Coln, and the Churn, begins to be navigable at this town; and barges come to its quay, to take in cheefe, butter, and other goods, which renders this place not inconfiderable.

Some monkifh writers tell us, that on one fide of the river was a univerfity for Latin, and on the other fide for Greek; but this is fabulous. A priory,

priory, or rather hoſpital of black canons, for a prior or maſter, and certain poor and infirm brethren, was erected near this town, and dedicated to St. John the Baptiſt, by lady Iſabel Ferrers, wife of Hugh Mortimer, before the thirtieth of king Henry the Third, but this houſe being decayed, king Edward the Fourth, in the twelfth year of his reign, gave Cicely, his mother, dutcheſs of York, leave to get it diſſolved, and to apply its revenues to the endowing a perpetual chauntry of three prieſts of the order of St. Mary, in the pariſh church, which continued till dean Underwood, in the reign of Henry the Seventh, found means to place two of theſe chauntry prieſts at Wallingford college, in Berkſhire, while the third remained at Lechlade.

This town has a ſmall market on Tueſdays, and two fairs, one held on the 10th of Auguſt, for cattle and toys, and the other on the 9th of September, for cheeſe and cattle.

Near Lechlade has been diſcovered, by digging in a meadow, a building fifty feet long, forty broad, and four high, ſupported by one hundred brick pillars, curiouſly inlaid with ſtones of various colours, and ſuppoſed to be the remains of a Roman bath.

Two miles ſouth-weſt of Lechlade is FAIRFORD, which took its name from a ford, formerly over the river Coln, near the place where it falls into the Thames. It is twenty-four miles eaſt of Glouceſter, and ſeventy-eight weſt by north of London. There are here two good bridges over the Coln. The church is a very handſome ſtructure, one hundred and twenty-five feet long, and fifty-five broad, conſiſting of a ſpacious body, two iſles, three chancels, and a veſtry, with a ſquare tower in the middle, and is extremely remarkable for its twenty-eight large painted

painted windows, repreſenting ſome of the principal events of the Old and New Teſtament. In the firſt window is the ſerpent tempting Eve; Moſes keeping his father's ſheep in the wilderneſs; Moſes and the burning-buſh; an angel guiding Joſhua to war, and Sheba offering gifts to Solomon. In the ſecond window is the ſalutation of Zachariàs and Elizabeth; the birth of John the Baptiſt; the viſit of Mary to Elizabeth, &c. In the third window is the ſalutation of the Virgin Mary; the birth of our Saviour; the wiſe men making their offerings; the purification of the Bleſſed Virgin; the circumciſion of our Saviour, and Simon receiving him in the temple. In the fourth window is the flight of Joſeph and Mary; Joſeph gathering fruit in the wilderneſs, and an angel bending down the branches; Joſeph and Mary finding our Saviour diſputing with the doctors in the temple, and the aſſumption of the Virgin Mary. In the fifth window is our Saviour riding upon an aſs to Jeruſalem; Zacheus in a ſycamore-tree; our Saviour's paſſion in the garden; Pilate ſitting in judgment againſt him; their ſcourging him; his being compelled to bear the croſs; and the crucifixion. In the ſixth window is Joſeph of Arimathea begging the body of Jeſus; Nicodemus receiving it; their laying the body in the ſepulchre; and St. Michael and his angels fighting the dragon and his angels. In the ſeventh window is the anointing of our Saviour for his burial; the angel that rolled away the ſtone ſitting in the ſepulchre; and the transfiguration, &c. In the eighth window is Chriſt appearing to his diſciples in the way to Emmaus; his breaking bread before them; and his appearing to the twelve apoſtles. In the ninth window is Jeſus ſhewing himſelf to the diſciples, when they were fiſhing in the ſea of Tiberius. His eating

eating with them, and his aſcenſion into heaven. In the tenth, eleventh, and twelfth windows, are repreſented the twelve apoſtles, each with an article of the apoſtle's creed in Latin, diſpoſed in an oval form round his head. In the thirteenth window are St. Jerome, St. Gregory, St. Ambroſe, and St. Auguſtine. In the fourteenth window is king David, ſitting in judgment againſt the Amalekite for cutting off Saul's head. In the fifteenth, which is the great window in the weſt end of the church, is our Saviour coming to judgment, &c. In the ſixteenth window is Solomon's judgment; Sampſon ſlaying the Philiſtines; Sampſon and Delilah, and here is abſurdly placed Midas's diſpute with Apollo. In the ſeventeenth window are the four Evangeliſts writing their goſpels. In the three next windows are the twelve prophets, each with a prophecy concerning the Meſſiah, in old Latin, round his head. Four other windows repreſent the perſecutors of the church, with devils on their heads; and in four windows, on the ſouth ſide of the body of the church, are the twelve Roman emperors, who protected the chriſtians, with angels over their heads. Theſe paintings were executed by Albert Durer, and are ſo exquiſitely finiſhed, that Vandyke affirmed, that the pencil could not exceed them. This church is viſited by travellers from all parts; and a man is appointed on purpoſe, to ſhew and explain theſe fine paintings. The glaſs of the windows was found on board a ſhip bound to Rome, which was taken as a prize by Mr. John Tame, merchant of London, in the reign of Henry the Seventh; when he brought it home to England, he purchaſed the manor of that prince, and built this church, on purpoſe to put the glaſs in the windows; where, by much care, they have been preſerved, the glaſs being taken down during the civil

civil wars, and thus preſerved from the violence of the times; but upon its being put up again, many of the paintings were miſplaced. Fairford has two fairs; the firſt on the 14th of May, and the other on the 12th of November, for ſheep and horned cattle.

At Fairford many medals and urns have been dug up; and in the adjoining fields are ſeveral barrows, ſuppoſed to have been raiſed over ſome conſiderable perſons, who have been ſlain here in battle.

Near the church is the ſeat of James Lambe, Eſq; which is adorned with fine gardens. Oppoſite the north front ſtand four images repreſenting the four ſeaſons, beyond which is a viſta through a park ſtocked with deer, terminated by an obeliſk, nearly a mile diſtant. There is a wilderneſs conſiſting of ſerpentine walks, adorned with images, urns and grottoes. A fine canal is brought into the gardens from the river Coln, and is well ſtocked with fruit-trees, ſhrubs, and flowers.

At the diſtance of twelve miles north-weſt of Fairford is BRIMPSFIELD, once noted for its caſtle and priory, which laſt was a cell to the abbey of Fontenoy in Normandy. It was diſſolved by Henry the Fifth, who kept the profits to himſelf; as alſo did Henry the Sixth; but Edward the Fourth, granted the lands to the free chapel of St. George in the caſtle at Windſor. The church is inconſiderable, it having only a low tower in the middle with battlements.

The city of GLOCESTER, the principal place in the county, is ſituated thirty-ſix miles eaſt-north-eaſt of Briſtol, twenty-two ſouth of Worceſter, fifty-eight ſouth weſt of Coventry, twenty-eight eaſt ſouth-eaſt of Hereford, and 102 weſt by north of London. It was originally called by the ancient Britons Caerglow, *the Fair city*, from its

its fine ſituation, and the beauty of its buildings. This name was changed by the Romans into Clevum, or Glevum, to which the Saxons, as was uſual with them, added Ceſter, which ſignifies a caſtle or fortification, and called it Gleavceſter, whence its preſent name is derived. Leland ſays, that in his time it was a large place, well built with timber, and defended with ſtrong walls, except on the ſide where it is waſhed by the Severn. There were four gates, namely, the eaſt, weſt, north, and ſouth; and the ancient caſtle ſtood ſouth of the town, on the banks of the Severn. The beauty of the town conſiſted of two ſtreets that croſſed each other, running towards the gates, and in the middle where they meet was an aqueduct. There were ſuburbs without the eaſt, north and ſouth gates; but the bridge only, with the cauſeway, lay at the weſt gate. The bridge conſiſted of eleven large ſtone arches; and there was another a little to the weſt, that had only two. A little way farther there was another bridge, juſt without the weſt gate, which had five arches. From this bridge there ran a large ſtone cauſeway, through the low meadows near the Severn, to the length of a quarter of a mile; and in it there were double arched bridges, that drained the meadows after a flood, and at the end of the cauſeway was a bridge of eight arches.

This city was made a biſhop's ſee by king Henry the Eighth, and on the inhabitants reſigning their charter in the year 1672, to king Charles the Second, he granted them a new one, by which the city is governed by a ſteward, a mayor, twelve aldermen, a recorder, two ſheriffs, twenty-ſix common-councilmen, a town-clerk, a ſword-bearer, and four ſerjeants at mace. For the better regulating the trade of this city, there are twelve companies, whoſe maſters attend the mayor,

on

on all public occaſions, in their gowns. Theſe are the mercers, in which are included the apothecaries, grocers and chandlers, the weavers; the tanners; the butchers; the bakers; the ſmiths and hammer-men, among whom are the goldſmiths, ironmongers, coopers, and joiners; the ſhoemakers, metal-men, taylors, barbers and glovers.

The city, which is well built, clean and healthy, ſtands on a pleaſant hill, ſecured on the weſt ſide by a branch of the Severn, navigable for large ſhips to the very quay. In the center of the town, where the four great ſtreets meet at right angles, is a ſtatue of colonel Selwyn, member of parliament for the city, who, at his own expence, made a very large and noble reſervoir of excellent water, at about half a mile diſtance: this water is brought into a baſon placed at the feet of the ſtatue, and from thence extends on each ſide into four canals, one of which paſſes thro' each of the four great ſtreets, for the convenient ſupply of the inhabitants.

The cathedral is an ancient magnificent fabric, and its tower is eſteemed one of neateſt and moſt curious pieces of architecture in England. In this church are twelve chapels, adorned with the arms and monuments of many great perſons, with the tomb of king Edward the Second, and of Robert duke of Normandy, the ſon of William the conqueror. But what is moſt remarkable in this church, is the gallery over the eaſt end of the choir, extending from one ſide of it to the other, which is much admired as a whiſpering place; it is of an hexagonal form, conſiſting of ſix ſides and ſix angles; in the wideſt place, it is twenty-five yards over, and one of the ſides is a window, yet if two perſons go to the moſt diſtant parts and whiſper, they will be perfectly heard by each

each other. This cathedral has beautiful cloyſters, and there belong to it a dean and ſix prebendaries.

This cathedral is ſaid to have the following origin; Wulphere, the firſt chriſtian king of Mercia, we are told, began a church and monaſtery here, which were finiſhed by Ethelred about the year 680, and dedicated to St. Peter. Three ſucceſſive queens preſided over this monaſtery for above ninety years; but in the time of the civil wars that followed, it became deſolate, and thus continued fifty years; but about 823, ſome ſecular prieſts were placed in it by Bernulph, king of Northumberland; theſe were turned out, and Benedictine monks placed in their room, about the year 1022, by order of king Canute, at the inſtigation of Wolſtan, biſhop of Worceſter. His ſucceſſor, biſhop Aldred, about the year 1058, new built the abbey church in a place where it formerly ſtood, nearer the city; and after the conqueſt, abbot Serlo, the conqueror's chaplain, greatly encreaſed the number of monks, and the revenues, which, at the diſſolution, amounted to 1946 l. 5 s. 9 d. per annum. At the ſuppreſſion of this abbey, Henry the Eighth erected Glouceſter into a biſhopric, and the abbey church became the cathedral.

Glouceſter has alſo five pariſh churches, beſides ſeveral meeting-houſes of proteſtant diſſenters, and is well provided with hoſpitals. It has an infirmary, and a charity-ſchool for above eighty children. Seventy of whom are cloathed. There have been ſeveral benefactors to this city, ſome of whom are as follow, namely, Sir Thomas White gave 2000 l. to twenty-four cities, of which Glouceſter is one, and is to have 100 l. once in twenty-four years, to be lent to four citizens, without intereſt, for ten years. Mr. Holden

of

of London gave 100 l. to be lent to two merchants for seven years. Mr. Ellis gave 50 l. to be lent to one without interest. Alderman Wiltshire also gave 100 l. to be lent to five poor tradesmen, as did also Mr. Fettiplace.

Here is likewise a castle erected in the reign of William the Conqueror, but it is now much decayed; however, part of it is leased out by the crown, and the rest serves for a prison, which is, indeed, one of the best in England. There is a good stone bridge over the river, besides a quay, a wharf, and a custom-house; and under the bridge is a machine, which supplies the whole city with water. There are several market-houses, supported by pillars; and a town-hall. The trade of this city was formerly considerable; but since the great increase of that of Bristol, it has decayed; one of its chief manufactures at present is that of pin-making, which employs near four hundred hands, of whom a great number are women and children. There are some glass-houses in the city; and a pretty brisk trade is carried on by means of the Severn with Shrewsbury, Bristol, &c. It has a market, held on Wednesdays and Saturdays; and four fairs, namely, a great cheese fair on April 5, and on July 5, September 28, and November 28, for cattle, pigs, horses, and cheese.

Besides the monastery of St. Peter already mentioned, we are told by some of the legendary writers, that about the year 660, a stately monument was built here by Marwold, viceroy of the western part of Mercia, and Domneva, his wife, in honour of St. Oswald, the king and martyr. It is also said, upon better authority, that in 909, Ethelred, earl of Mercia, and Elfleda, daughter of king Alfred, his countess, translating the reliques of St. Oswald from Bardney, near Lincoln,

coln, to this place, founded here a religious houſe, which being deſerted by the monks in the Daniſh wars, became a college of ſecular prieſts, which was then accounted a free chapel royal, exempt from the juriſdiction of the archbiſhop of Canterbury, or the biſhop of Worceſter; but king William Rufus, gave it to the archbiſhops of York, in lieu of their claims to Lindſey, one of the three diviſions of Lincolnſhire, and to other parts in that county, which they quitted to the biſhop of Lincoln. In 1153, Henry Murdock, archbiſhop of York, placed here a certain number of regular canons, of the order of St. Auſtin, ſeven of whom continued till the diſſolution, when the revenues were valued at 90l. 10s. a year.

King Ethelſtan founded here a priory of black canons of the order of St. Auguſtine.

A houſe or college of black friars was founded about the year 1239, near the caſtle yard of Gloceſter, by king Henry the Third, and Sir Stephen de Herneſhull.

A houſe of grey friars was founded before the year 1268, by one of the lord Berkeleys, not far from the ſouth gate, in the pariſh of St. Mary Cript.

A priory of Carmelite, or white friars, was founded in the reign of king Henry the Third, by queen Eleanor, Sir Thomas Giffard, and Sir Thomas Berkeley, without the north gate.

A priory, or hoſpital dedicated to St. Bartholomew, was founded by king Henry the Third, in the pariſh church of St. Nicholas, near the weſt bridge, for four infirm brothers and ſiſters, under the government of a prior or maſter. In this hoſpital were once maintained fifty-two poor men, but it afterwards conſiſted of a maſter, three brethren, and thirty-two poor men and women. At the diſſolution it was valued at 44l. a year. It

is

is now an hoſpital for poor people, in which are maintained a miniſter, phyſician, ſurgeon, maſter, twenty-four poor men, and thirty women, each of whom have a room, and an allowance of half a crown a week.

It will be neceſſary, before we conclude this article, to give a conciſe hiſtory of this ancient city, which, as we have already obſerved, is allowed by all authors to have been a Roman ſtation. After the Saxon heptarchy, this place was of ſome note; and near it, king Edmund, ſurnamed Ironſide, fought for the kingdom in the Iſle of Alney, with Canute, who obtained the victory. A little before the conqueſt, by William the Firſt, Bricktric, a Saxon, was lord of Gloceſter; but refuſing to marry Maud, afterwards the wife of William the Conqueror, ſhe cauſed him to be impriſoned, and his eſtate to be ſeized by the crown. Afterwards William Rufus gave it to Robert Fitz-Haimon, lord of Corbaille in Normandy. Several of our kings kept their Chriſtmas at Gloceſter. King John, in the firſt year of his reign, made Gloceſter a borough town, and Henry the Third, a corporation. In the reign of the laſt mentioned king, the barons laid ſiege to it, and took it in four days; however, it was ſoon after retaken by prince Edward, his ſon, who pardoned the burgeſſes, upon their paying a thouſand marks. King Edward the Firſt held a parliament here in the year 1272; in which ſome uſeful laws were made, now called the Statutes of Gloceſter. King Richard the Second alſo held a parliament here, and king Richard the Third, on account of his having borne the title of duke of Gloceſter, before he obtained the crown, added the two adjacent hundreds of Dudſton and Kings-Barton to it, gave it his ſword and cap of maintenance, and made it a county of itſelf, by the name of the county

county of the city of Gloceſter; but after the reſtoration, the hundreds were taken away by act of parliament, and the walls of the city razed; becauſe, in 1643, the inhabitants ſhut the gates againſt king Charles the Firſt, by whom it was in vain beſieged. The city had then eleven pariſh churches, but ſix of them were then demoliſhed, and only the remaining five, with the cathedral, were left ſtanding. This city now gives the title of duke to his royal highneſs William Henry, his majeſty's brother.

At LANTHONY, near Gloceſter, Milo, earl of Hereford, founded a monaſtery in the year 1136, dedicated to the Virgin Mary, and St. John Baptiſt, for the black canons of Lanthony, in Monmouthſhire, who were driven out of their habitation by the Welch. This monaſtery was, at the diſſolution, endowed with a revenue of 748 l. 19 s. 11 d. a year.

HEMPSTEAD is a village near two miles ſouth of Gloceſter; its church ſtands upon a hill, and has a tower between the body of it and the chancel, in which are the effigies of a judge in his robes, lying at length on a monument. It was deſigned for Richard Atkins, Eſq; chief juſtice of South Wales, who died in 1610.

ELMORE is a village ſeated on the Severn, three miles ſouth-weſt of Gloceſter; and is ſo called from the plenty of eels caught near it. The church is a double building, ſupported by pillars, and has a north-iſle, and a tower with battlements.

Six miles north-weſt of Gloceſter is NEWENT, which takes its name from a new inn, erected here for the conveniency of travellers to and from Wales; from thence it firſt became a hamlet, and afterwards a town. It is ſituated in the foreſt of Dean, ſix miles north-weſt of Gloceſter, eight

ſouth

ſouth of Lidbury, and 104 from London, on a ſmall river navigable by boats. Its pariſh is very large, and ſaid to be twenty miles in compaſs, in which are ſeveral gentlemen's ſeats. It has a handſome church, and ſeveral charitable foundations.

William Rogers, of Oakely, erected two almshouſes here, beſides which there is another, with eight dwellings and gardens for poor people. It has a market on Fridays, and four fairs, on the Wedneſday before Eaſter, Wedneſday before Whit-Sunday, Auguſt 1, and the Friday after September 8, for cattle, horſes, and cheeſe.

GREAT DEAN, or MICHAEL DEAN, the principal town in the foreſt of Dean, is ſituated ſeventeen miles ſouth-weſt of Newent, and is a tolerable handſome town, chiefly conſiſting of one ſtreet, and has a good church, with a handſome ſpire. Its principal manufacture was formerly cloth, but now it is pins. The hills round the town abound with iron ore, and there are ſeveral furnaces for melting it, and forges for beating the iron into flats. The workmen are here very induſtrious in diſcovering the beds of the old iron cinders, which, not being fully exhauſted of the metal, are purchaſed of the owners of the land, at a good price; and being again burnt in the furnaces, afford better iron than the ore new dug from the mines. This town has a market on Mondays; and 2 fairs, on Eaſter-Monday, and October 10, for horned cattle, ſheep, and horſes.

LITTLE DEAN lies about two miles to the ſouth of the former, and has alſo two fairs, one on Whitſon-Monday, and the other on the 26th of November, for pedlars ware.

Three miles to the eaſtward of Michael Dean is WESTBURY, a very large pariſh, containing ſeveral hamlets. This village has two churches

in

in the ſame yard, the old and the new: this laſt is dedicated to the Virgin Mary, and is chiefly uſed by the inhabitants.

About a mile to the ſouth-eaſt of Weſtbury, is FLAXLEY, a village, where was formerly an abbey of Ciſtercian monks, founded by Roger, earl of Hereford, in the reign of king Stephen, and dedicated to the Virgin Mary. At the ſuppreſſion it had nine monks, and its annual revenues were then rated at 112 l. 3 s.

At the diſtance of a mile ſouth of Flaxley is NEWNHAM, which conſiſts of one ſtreet; but the pariſh is eight miles in compaſs, and contains rich arable land and paſtures, with ſeveral hamlets. It has a market on Fridays, and two fairs, for horſes and ſheep, held on the 11th of June, and the 18th of October.

From Newnham the road extends ſouth-weſt, and paſſes by LIDNEY, which is about a mile out of the road, eight miles ſouth-weſt of Newnham, and the ſouth-eaſt of Monmouth. This is a pariſh of pretty large extent, bordering on the river Severn.

The church is a large ſpacious building, with a very handſome ſpire; and here is an alms-houſe for the benefit of the poor. It has a market on Wedneſdays, and 2 fairs, on May 4, and November 8, for cattle.

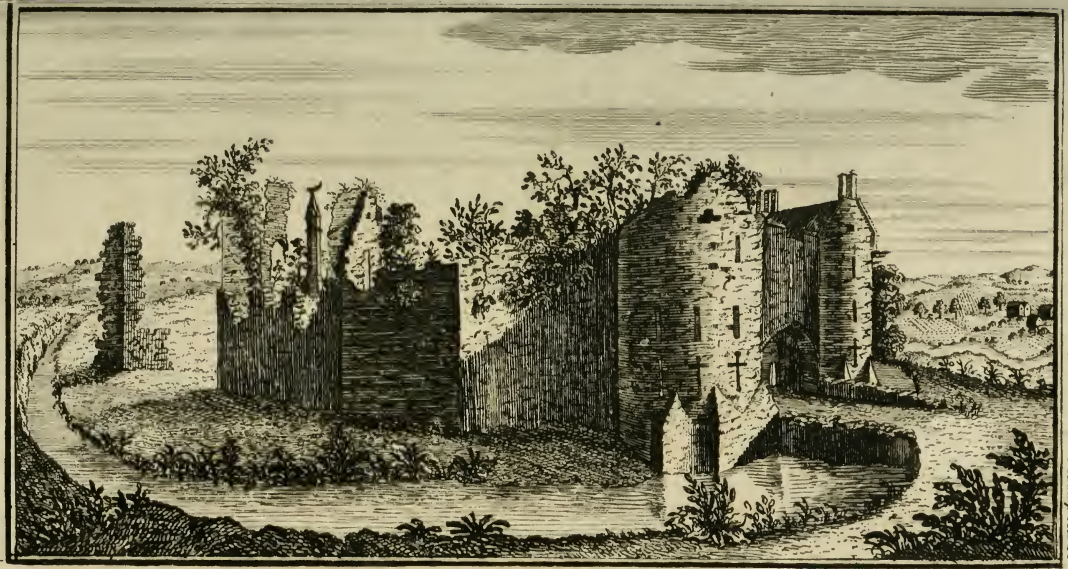
About ſeven miles to the ſouth-weſt of Newnham is WOOLASTON, a conſiderable village, which contains about 220 houſes, and 460 inhabitants. The pariſh is twelve miles in compaſs, and conſiſts of arable and paſture land. The church, however, is but a mean ſtructure, and has a low, wooden tower in the middle.

Three miles ſouth-weſt of Woolaſton is TYDENHAM, a pariſh fifteen miles in compaſs, bounded on three ſides, by the rivers Severn and Wye,

Wye, and consists chiefly of pasture and arable land. Chepstow bridge is half in this parish, and is maintained by this county, as the other half is by Monmouthshire. The tide at this bridge is thought to rise higher than at any other place in the world; for it sometimes advances to the height of sixty feet. Offa's dyke, which was drawn by that king to separate the kingdom of Mercia from Wales, begins at Beachley in this parish, and passes through Flintshire, to the river Dee in Cheshire. The church, belonging to the village, is supported with pillars in the middle, and dedicated to the Virgin Mary; but the tower at the west end is but low. At the utmost point of this parish, at the confluence of the Severn and Wye, there stood a chapel, dedicated to St. Tecla, who was said to be the first female martyr, and that she suffered in the year 47; but this must be a fable, Christianity being then not known in this island; however, the ruins of the chapel are still to be seen upon the rocks at low water.

We shall now leave the road which passes into Monmouthshire, and crossing the country, proceed northward to St. BRIVAL's CASTLE, which is between four and five miles north of Tydenham. This castle is in the forest of Dean, and here is held the mine court, chiefly constituted for miners and workers in iron, who have laws of their own, proper for the carrying on their affairs, and deciding their differences, in which there used to be a peculiar custom of an evidence's swearing, by touching a bible with a kind of consecrated stick, and not by his supposed defiled, because dirty, hand. In it is a prison for offenders. The government of this castle has been always given to some of the nobility, and the present constable thereof is the earl of Berkeley.

Three



The East View of S^t. Brivals Castle, *in the County of* Gloucester.

Vol. IIII. pa. 120

Three miles north of the laſt mentioned caſtle is NEWLAND, which is a very large pariſh in the ſame foreſt, it being thirty miles in compaſs, and includes meadow, paſture and arable lands. It is ſeated in a pleaſant plain, well watered with ſeveral brooks, that run into the river Wye. Here are coal pits and iron mines, ſome of which are exhauſted. The church is a large ſtructure, adorned with a handſome tower, and a ſpacious churchyard. There have been ſeveral donations to the poor of this pariſh, beſides a large hoſpital, founded by William Jones, a Hamburgh merchant, for ſixteen men and women, who are allowed two ſhillings a week each, and a gown at Chriſtmas. Mr. Bell founded a ſchool-houſe, as well as an alms-houſe, for eight poor people.

Four miles eaſt of Newland is COLEFORD, a village four miles eaſt of Monmouth, that has two fairs, the firſt on the 20th of June, for wool, and the other on the 24th of November, for horned cattle and cheeſe.

Now leaving the foreſt of Dean, we ſhall return back to Gloceſter, and proceed from thence, in the poſt road to Briſtol, which extends eight miles ſouth-weſt to PAINESWICK, a ſmall town, that takes its name from the ancient family of the Paines, its ancient lords. It is pleaſantly ſeated in the beſt air in the county, and has the convenience of water, wood and ſtone, for building. The church, which is large and handſome, has a neat ſpire at the weſt end, and two chancels. It has a charity-ſchool, and a manufacture of broadcloth. This town has a ſmall market on Tueſdays, and two fairs, one on Whitſun-Tueſday, and other on the 19th of September, for horned cattle and ſheep.

KINSBOROW-HILL, called alſo CASTLE-GODWIN, is an ancient fortification on a very ſteep hill

in this pariſh, from whence there is a large proſpect over the Severn. It is ſurrounded by deep double trenches.

BISLEY is ſituated about three miles ſouth of Paineſwick, and has a market on Thurſdays, with two fairs, which are held on the 25th of April, and the 12th of November, for horned cattle, ſheep and horſes.

About two miles ſouth-eaſt of Biſley is STROUD, a town ſeated on a hill, at the foot of which runs a ſmall river of the ſame name, ten miles to the ſouthward of Gloceſter, and ninety-four weſt of London. There is a bridge over the river, and on the banks are ſeveral fulling-mills, it being a great cloathing town; for they are ſaid to make a thouſand pieces of cloth in a year. This river has been lately made navigable from the Severn, which has proved of great advantage to this town. The church is a handſome ſtructure, ninety feet long, and thirty broad, with a high ſpire ſteeple at the weſt end, and a tower in the middle. The chancel is thirty-three feet long, and ſixteen wide. Here is a free-ſchool, a charity-ſchool, and a workhouſe, with a good market on Fridays, for proviſions and yarn; and two fairs, held on the 12th of May, and the 21ſt of Auguſt, for cattle, ſheep and pigs.

About a mile and a half to the ſouth of Stroud is HAMPTON, or MINCHING-HAMPTON, which took its name from an order of nuns at Caen in Normandy, called Minchings, to whom it formerly belonged. Aldred, biſhop of Worceſter, before the conqueſt, gave this monaſtery to the monks of Worceſter, afterwards it was given to Roger de Ivory; but king William the Firſt ſeizing all his lands, gave this manor to the nunnery of Caen. At length, when Henry the Fifth ſuppreſſed the alien monaſteries, he ſettled it upon the nunnery

nunnery of Sion in Middlesex. The church is large, and in the form of a cross, with isles on each side, and a tower with battlements in the middle. This town has a market on Tuesdays; and two fairs, held on Trinity-Monday, and October 29, for cattle.

About two miles north-west of Minching-Hampton, between Stroud and Stanley St. Leonard, is the village of WOODCHESTER, where, if we may believe tradition, Gueta, the wife of Godwin, earl of Kent, built a religious house to atone for her husband's guilt in corrupting the nuns at Berkeley. In the church-yard of this village, a curious Roman pavement of mosaic work was discovered in the year 1722. Some have supposed it to belong to the above religious house; but others, with much greater probability, imagine that it was the floor of the habitation of some Roman general. It is of considerable extent, and represents birds and beasts in their natural colours, besides a variety of other devices beautifully exhibited. Here is a free-school, erected at the cost of Nathaniel Cambridge, who gave 1200 l. for that purpose. One Mr. Seys also gave 400 l. to endow and erect a school, to teach poor girls at this village to write and read.

STANLEY ST. LEONARD lies on the same road, a little more than half a mile to the west of Woodchester, and is so called, from a priory of Benedictine monks, dedicated to that saint, of which there are still some remains. It was founded by Roger de Berkeley, in the year 1146, and was valued, at the dissolution, at 126 l. a year. The church is built in the form of a cross, with a tower in the middle, and dedicated to St. Swithin. This place has a small market on Saturdays, and one fair on July 20, for cattle.

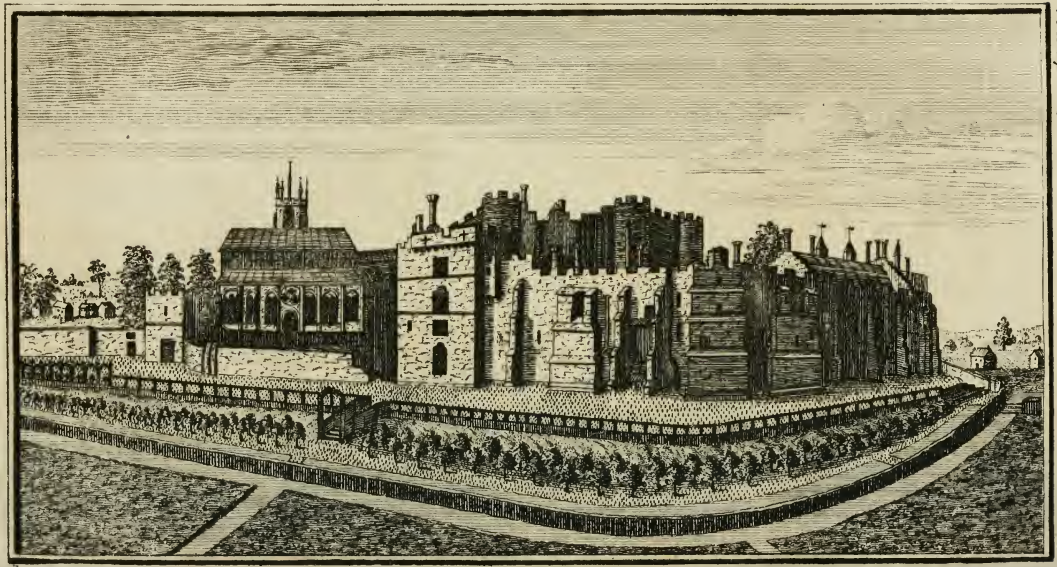
Two miles ſouth-weſt of Stanley St. Leonard is DURSLEY, which is ſeated near a branch of the Severn, and had formerly a ſtrong caſtle, now in ruins. It is a corporation, governed by a bailiff and four conſtables. The inhabitants carry on a manufacture of woollen cloth, and have a market on Thurſdays, with two fairs, held on the 6th of May, and the 4th of December, for cattle and pedlars goods.

Edward Fox, an eminent ſtateſman in the ſixteenth century, almoner to king Henry the Eighth, and biſhop of Hereford, was born in this town, and educated at Eton-ſchool. In 1512, he was admitted ſcholar of King's college in Cambridge, of which, in 1528, he was elected provoſt. Being introduced to court by his near relation, Richard Fox, biſhop of Wincheſter, he ſoon diſtinguiſhed himſelf by his political abilities. He was deeply concerned in all the public tranſactions of that long and active reign; particularly in the affair of the king's divorce, and the work of the reformation. After poſſeſſing a great number of inferior church preferments, he was raiſed, in 1535, to the ſee of Hereford, which he enjoyed till his death. He died at London May 8, 1538, and was interred in the church of St. Mary Monthaw in Thames-Street.

Three miles ſouth-weſt of Stanley is CAMBRIDGE, a village remarkable for its bridge, which the Danes paſſed over loaded with ſpoils, but were ſoon after attacked by the Weſt Saxons and Mercians, when the fight becoming very bloody, three of their princes were ſlain.

A mile and a half north-weſt of the former lies SLYMBRIDGE, a village whoſe church is a large lofty ſtructure, adorned with battlements, and a ſpire ſteeple. It has an iſle on each ſide, and a very

The South East View of Berkeley Castle, *in the County of* Gloucester.



Vol. IIII pa. 125.

very handſome veſtry joining to the chancel. Several hamlets belong to this pariſh.

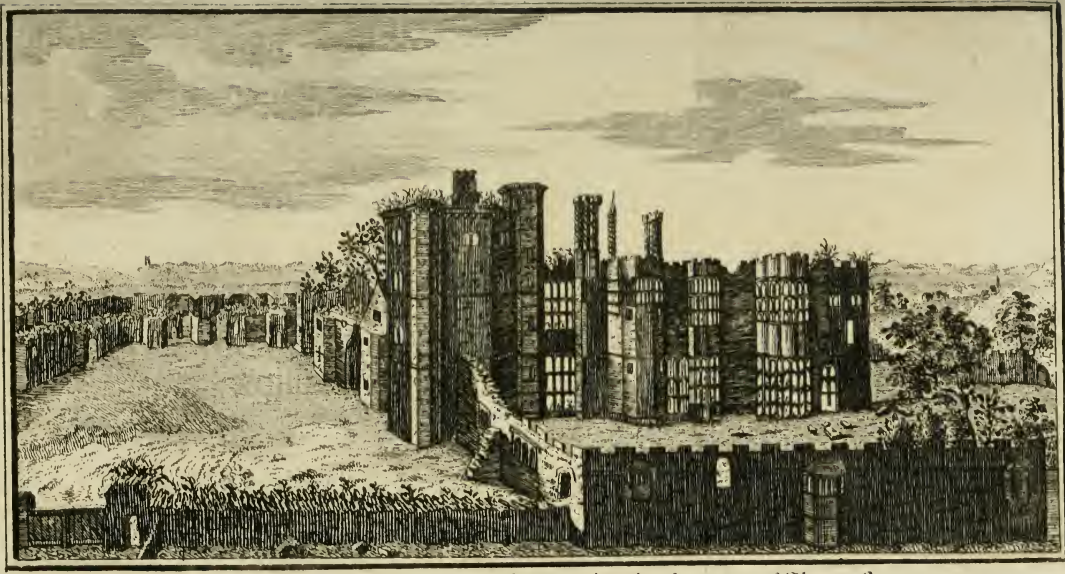
Six miles weſt of Stanley is BERKELEY, a town ſeated on a branch of the Severn, twenty miles north of Briſtol; this is an ancient borough, governed by a mayor and aldermen. The caſtle and its manor, called the Honour of Berkeley, has been in the ſame family that now poſſeſs it, ever ſince the reign of Henry the Second. Here Edward the Second was impriſoned; and the room in which he was confined is ſtill to be ſeen. This caſtle is a handſome old Gothic building, and is very ſtrong, but it ſeems to have been built at ſeveral times. It is the ſeat of the preſent earl of Berkeley, and is very large and ſpacious. Of this ſtructure we have given a view engraved on copper. The church of this town is a large and handſome ſtructure, with an iſle on each ſide, beſides a ſpacious chancel, to which joins a chapel, that is at preſent the burying place of the family of Berkeley.

Here was a nunnery long before the conqueſt, which was ſuppreſſed by the villainous contrivance of Godwin, earl of Kent, who procured many of the nuns, and the abbeſs herſelf, to be debauched, and afterwards begged it of Edward the Confeſſor. An hoſpital of St. James and St. John, in this place, is mentioned in a deed of the twelfth of king Henry the Third, but no particulars are known about it.

The manor, in which this town lies, is one of the largeſt in England, moſt of the towns in Berkeley hundred, and many other places in the county, including near thirty pariſhes, depending upon it, and the lands that are held of it are computed to be worth 30,000 l. a year. Here is a market on Wedneſdays, and a fair on the 14th of May, for cattle and pigs.

Eight miles ſouth-weſt of Berkeley is THORNBURY, a town ſituated two miles from the eaſtern bank of the Severn, on a rivulet that runs by it, twenty-four miles ſouth-weſt of Gloceſter, and 105 weſt of London. The town has a cuſtomary or titular mayor, twelve aldermen, who have ſerved the office of mayor, and two conſtables. Here are the foundations of a magnificent caſtle, which Edward, duke of Buckingham deſigned to erect in the year 1511, as appears from the inſcription over the gate; namely, "This gate was begun by me, Edward, duke of Buckingham, earl of Hereford, Stafford and Northampton, in 1511". We are not told that it was ever finiſhed, though it appears that one part certainly was, for the walls, which are pretty entire, ſhow that it was a very fine gothic ſtructure; and even ſeveral of the chimnies are ſtill ſtanding. Another part ſhows little more than the foundations, which, had they been compleated, the caſtle would have been of a very large extent. The reaſon it was left in this condition was, that his grace was beheaded in the year 1521, before he had time to complete his deſign. Of this ſtructure we have given a view engraved on copper.

This town, in the time of the late civil wars, was fortified for the king, by William St. Legar, to curb the garriſon of Gloceſter. The church is large, and built in the form of a cathedral, with ſpacious iſles on each ſide, and a croſs. It has three chancels, and a tower at the weſt end, which is high and beautiful. There are four ſmall alms-houſes, for the maintenance of fifteen poor people; but two of them have little or no endowment; the other two have ſo much land ſettled on them, that each of the poor have a ſhilling a week and their coals. Mr. Edwards likewiſe built a free-ſchool, which is ſince endowed



Vol. III. pa. 120.

The South View of Thornbury Caſtle, *in the County of* Glouceſter.

ed with 14l. a year. This town has a market on Saturdays, and three fairs, on Eaſter Monday, Auguſt 15, and the Monday before December 21, for cattle and pigs.

OLDBURY is a village ſeated upon the Severn, two miles weſt of Thornbury, and is thought by ſome to have been a Roman ſtation. There are in this pariſh two military camps, the greater of which is a large Roman fortification; the other was where the church now ſtands. The trajectus, or paſſage over the Severn, is thought to have been here. The church has two iſles, and had a ſpire ſteeple, which was blown down in the great ſtorm in 1703.

The road continues to run ſouthward, but at an inconſiderable village, named HAMBROOK, turns ſouth-weſt, and in that direction extends to BRISTOL, part of which being in this county, and part in Somerſetſhire, we ſhall defer the deſcription of it till we come to treat of the towns of the laſt mentioned county.

In the neighbourhood of Briſtol is ST. VINCENT'S ROCK, behind the Hot-well, which hangs over the river Avon, in vaſt and tremendous cliffs of a prodigious height, and in the place where the river winds a little, they form on one ſide a vaſt amphitheatre, which is, perhaps, one of the ſublimeſt ſights in nature. The oppoſite ſhore of the river is very ſteep, but quite covered with wood, the verdure of which affords a ſtrong contraſt to the barren craggy rocks.

At the village of CLIFTON, near theſe rocks, a little to the caſt of Briſtol, is a grotto, curious in taſte and materials; you enter it under ground, through a dark arched brick paſſage, that reſembles an approach to a wine vault. On opening the door, you are ſtruck with the ſight of a den, in which is the ſtatue of a lion. The roof is ſup-

ported by four Tuſcan pillars, and a ſmall caſcade pours from the urn of a river god. Here is the utmoſt profuſion of Briſtol ſtone, many of the pieces very fine; the four pillars are ſtuck with nothing elſe; likewiſe a great number of fine ſhells, foſſils, corals, ſpar, &c.

KING'S WESTON, the ſeat of Edward Southill, Eſq; is about three miles to the weſt of Briſtol. It was built by Sir John Vanbrugh, and is in his heavy ſtyle. The lawn, which is viewed from the houſe, is very beautiful, but to obtain a fine proſpect, you muſt aſcend the hill, a little beyond the place where the breakfaſting-houſe for the Hotwell company is ſituated, from whence you look down to the left upon ſome fine woods, in the midſt of which Mr. Southill's houſe appears. In front is a very fine valley two miles broad, interſected with hedges and trees, and bounded by the mouth of the Severn, which is here ten miles over; you command King-road, with a fleet of ſhipping, which generally lie at anchor. Behind is an extenſive view of the country, interſperſed with villages: the windings of the Severn are ſeen twenty miles, and thoſe of the Avon, quite to Briſtol. In ſhort, the proſpect extends into Somerſetſhire, Gloceſterſhire, Monmouthſhire, Glamorganſhire, Brecknockſhire, Radnorſhire, and even to Pembrokeſhire.

At REDLAND, a village alſo in the neighbourhood of Gloceſter, is a houſe belonging to Mr. Cozens, which is of white ſtone, light, and elegantly beautiful, and the chapel of the village is extremely neat.

Mr. Champion's copper-works, about three miles from Briſtol, are well worth the obſervation of the curious, they diſplaying the whole proceſs, from the melting of the ore, to making it into pins, pans, &c. the copper being here not only extracted

extracted from the ore, but converted into braſs, by means of lapis caliminaris. The liquid ore pouring out of the furnace into clay moulds, ſays the author of the Farmer's letters, from whom we have borrowed this article, reſembles the ſlight eruptions of Mount Veſuvius. After being ſeveral times melted, it is poured into a flat mould of ſtone, to make it into thin plates, about four feet long and three broad. Theſe plates are then cut into ſeventeen ſtripes, and theſe again, with particular machines, into many more very thin ones, and drawn out to the length of ſeventeen feet, which are again drawn into wire, and done up in bunches, each of forty ſhillings value, about 100 of which are made here every week, and each of them converted into 100,000 pins, into which the wires are cut, and completed here, a great number of girls being employed with little machines, worked by their feet, point and head them with great expedition. The heads are ſpun by a woman with a wheel, and ſeparated from one another by a man with another little engine, reſembling a pair of ſheers. A vaſt number of awkward pans and diſhes are made here of braſs, for the negroes on the coaſt of Guinea, and all the machines and wheels ſet in motion by water, for raiſing which there is a prodigious fire-engine, which is ſaid to raiſe 3000 hogſheads every minute.

At WESTBURY, two miles north-weſt of Briſtol, was a monaſtery before the year 824, but being forſaken and in ruins, it was rebuilt in the year 1093, and dedicated to the Virgin Mary. The old poſſeſſions were then recovered, new ones were added, and monks again placed in it by Wulſtan, biſhop of Worceſter, who made it a cell to the priory of that city; however, the monks were again removed by biſhop Sampſon,

in the reign of king Henry the Firſt; but in 1288, Godfrey Giffard, biſhop of Worceſter, eſtabliſhed a college for a dean and canons, dedicated to the Holy Trinity, which was afterwards augmented by ſeveral benefactions; and at the diſſolution was valued at 332 l. 14 s. a year.

HENBURY is a village three miles north of Briſtol; near it is a hill called Blaize-hill, becauſe there ſtood a chapel dedicated to that ſaint, long ſince demoliſhed. In the year 1707, when ſome foundation ſtones of the chapel were dug up, there were found many ancient Roman coins, and other antiquities. The hill is round, and is ſaid to have been a Roman or Britiſh fortification, there being three rampires of a great height and thickneſs, with trenches ſtill viſible. Here is a free-ſchool erected by Mr. Anthony Edwards, who built two houſes for the maſter and uſher, and ſettled 80 l. a year to maintain them; they are employed in teaching poor children, who are to to wear blue coats.

MARSHFIELD is ſeated on the road from London to Briſtol, and on the borders of Wiltſhire, it being eight miles eaſt of the laſt mentioned city. It is ſeated on Coteſwold, and conſiſts chiefly of one ſtreet of old buildings, near a mile long. It has a large church, and an alms-houſe, with a chapel belonging to it, well endowed for eight poor people. Here is alſo a charity-ſchool maintained by the lord of the manor. The town is governed by a bailiff, who has power to puniſh offenders within its liberty. The inhabitants have a great trade in making malt, and have been famous for their cakes. They have a market on Tueſdays, and a fair on the 24th of May, for horned cattle, and another on the 24th of October, for ſheep, horſes and cheeſe.

We

We ſhall now enter the road which leads from Briſtol, and extends north-eaſt through the whole county into Warwickſhire.

At the diſtance of about nine miles north-eaſt of Briſtol is PUCKLECHURCH, a village which was formerly a royal villa, the reſidence of ſome of the Saxon kings; and the ruins of extenſive buildings are ſtill to be ſeen. Edmund, king of the Weſt Saxons, was here ſlain in his palace. The church is large, and has a high tower, with pinnacles at the weſt end.

Three miles eaſt of Pucklechurch is DERHAM, a village full of ſprings, and remarkable for great ramparts and trenches, which ſhew that it was formerly the ſeat of military actions. Relating to this, we are told, that one Ceaulin, king of the Weſt Saxons, engaging with the Britons in the neighbouring fields, obtained a great victory, and ſlew Cammeail, Condidan and Fariemoil, three of their kings; upon which the cities of Bath, Gloceſter and Cirenceſter, yielded to the Conqueror. The church has an iſle on both ſides, and at the weſt end is a tower with battlements.

Here leaving the road, we ſhall proceed to AUST, a village formerly called AUST-CLIVE. It is about eight miles north-eaſt of Briſtol, and has a ferry over the Severn, in the road to Chapſtow. It is ſeated on a very high craggy cliff, and is a hamlet to Henbury, a village near Briſtol. There is a neat chapel in this village, with a high tower at the weſt end, adorned with pinnacles.

ACTON is a village twelve miles north-eaſt of Briſtol, and is ſometimes called IRON-ACTON, on account of the large quantities of iron ore formerly found at this place, and the heaps of cinders that have been lately dug up, plainly ſhew, that there have been iron works here. It ſtands at the confluence of two rivers, which make the

Frome.

Frome. In the church yard there is a large crofs with arches on the north fide thereof. It has two fairs, on April 25, and September 13, for cattle and horfes.

CHIPPING SODBURY is an ancient borough, eleven miles north-eaft of Briftol, originally governed by a bailiff; but in 1681, it was made a corporation, with a mayor, fix aldermen, and twelve burgeffes; yet in 1688 it was difincorporated. The bailiffs and burgeffes are ftill impowered to diftribute eighty-eight cow paftures to as many of the inhabitants, and eight acres of meadow for their own lives, and thofe of their widows; and as they fall, to grant them again in the like manner. This town is feated in a bottom, and confifts of feveral ftreets. It is a great thoroughfare in the road from Briftol to Cirenceffter and Oxfordfhire, and has therefore very commodious inns. Here is a fpacious church, with a high tower at the weft end, tho' it is only a chapel of eafe to Old Sodbury, a village in its neighbourhood. Here is a free-fchool, with 30 l. a year for the fchool-maffer; and there are other gifts for repairing the church, and putting out apprentices. The market, which is held on Thurfdays, is efteemed the greateft cheefe-market in England, except that of Atherfton on the Stour, a market-town of Warwickfhire. Here are alfo two fairs, one on the 23d of May, and the other on the 24th of June, for cattle, cheefe and pedlars goods.

Round this town there is as great a variety of natural bodies within the compafs of four miles, as can be found in any one fpot of that extent in England. On the defcent of a fteep ftony hill, about a mile eaftward from the town, the banks on each fide are full of belemnities of very different kinds, nautilites of the ribbed fort, and others; and at the entrance of the town, a little

fouth

ſouth of the road, there is a large quarry of hard blue ſtone, compoſed of maſſes of bivalve ſhells.

About a mile north of Wickwar is the village of CROMHALL, near which is Anchorite-hill, which received its name from its having formerly the cell of a hermit, the ruins of which are ſtill viſible. Here was ſome years ago diſcovered a chequered pavement, eighteen feet and a half long, and fifteen and a half broad, compoſed of white, red, blue and dark coloured cubical ſtones, alternately varied, and united by a ſtrong cement. This was doubtleſs a work of the Romans.

WICKWAR, a very ancient corporation, three miles ſouth-eaſt of Sodbury, is governed by a mayor and aldermen. The town is well watered by two brooks, over one of which is a handſome ſtone bridge. The church is a large ſtructure, adorned with battlements, and a lofty tower, ornamented with pinnacles. It has a free-ſchool; and the neighbouring waſtes afford the inhabitants plenty of coal. It has a market on Mondays, with two fairs, one on the 5th of April, and the other on the 2d of July, for horſes and oxen.

Two miles north-eaſt of Wickwar is KINGSWOOD, which is eſteemed a village of Wiltſhire, notwithſtanding its being ſurrounded by Gloceſterſhire, and its deriving its name from the neighbouring foreſt. The inhabitants are employed in the clothing trade, which has rendered the village pretty large and populous. In the adjoining foreſt are coal-pits, from whence the coals are carried on horſes to Briſtol.

Two miles north-eaſt of the laſt mentioned village is WOTTON-UNDER-EDGE, which is ſeated under a pleaſant and fruitful eminence, eighteen miles north-eaſt of Briſtol, and ninety-nine weſt of London. It is a pretty town, and has a handſome church, with a tower, adorned with

with battlements and pinnacles; and in it are ſeveral monuments of the family of Berkeley. Here is a free-ſchool, founded by lady Catharine, widow of Thomas lord Berkeley, in the year 1385. The town is ſupplied with water, which was brought hither at the expence of Hugh Perry, Eſq; who was an alderman of London in 1632; and the ſame gentleman gave 1000 l. to erect and endow an alms-houſe for ſix poor men, and as many poor women. The town is governed by a mayor, who is annually choſen at the court leet of the earl of Berkeley, and has been long famous for being a clothing town. The market is held on Fridays, and there is a fair here on the 25th of September, for cattle and cheeſe.

In the twenty-third year of king Edward the Third, a licenſe was granted for founding here a houſe of croſſed, or crouched friars, and endowing it with lands to the yearly value of 10 l.

John Biddle, an eminent Socinian writer of the ſeventeenth century, was born at this town on the 14th of January 1615. He was educated in the free-ſchool of his native place, and in Magdalen hall, Oxford, where he took the degrees of bachelor and maſter of arts. In 1641, he was elected maſter of the free-ſchool of Crypt in Gloceſter; but having conceived ſome opinions in divinity, different from the received ones, and having been ſo imprudent as to expreſs his ſentiments on theſe ſubjects openly, he was accuſed of hereſy, and deprived of his place. His hereſy conſiſted in denying the equality of the three perſons in the trinity. For this crime he was ſummoned before the parliament, who ordered his books to be burnt, and himſelf committed to cloſe cuſtody. In a word, after undergoing a variety of perſecutions, being ſometimes impriſoned, and ſometimes

ſometimes baniſhed, he died in jail September the 22d, 1662.

A mile and a half to the ſouth-weſt of Wotton-Under-Edge is BOXWELL, which takes its name from the Box-trees that grow in its neighbourhood, and from a well, from which proceeds a brook, that afterwards becomes a ſmall river, and joining another, falls into the Severn. The church is but a mean ſtructure, with a ſmall low ſpire. Here was a nunnery, which is ſaid to have been deſtroyed by the Danes.

At LEYTERTON, a hamlet belonging to this pariſh, a barrow was opened about ſeventy years ago, in which were three vaults, containing urns filled with aſhes.

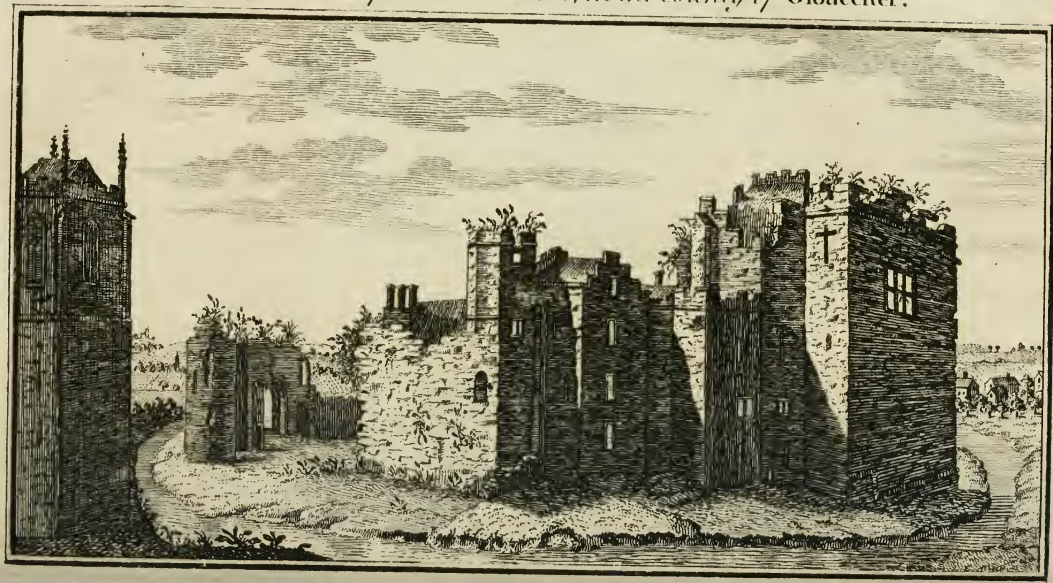
ALDERLEY, a village, at a ſmall diſtance to the ſouth-eaſt of Wotton-Under-Edge, is ſeated on the ſide of a hill, and bounded on the north and ſouth by two ſmall brooks. The church is ſmall but has a tower, with pinnacles at the weſt end. Near this village have been found great quantities of ſtones in the form of cockles and oyſter-ſhells; a variety of conjectures have been made concerning them; ſome ſuppoſing them to be luſus naturæ, while others believe, that they are really the ſhells of fiſh left here by the univerſal deluge.

Sir Mathew Hale, a man of great learning and integrity, and lord chief juſtice of the King's Bench, was born here on the firſt of November, 1609. He had his education in Magdalen-hall, Oxford, where he ſtudied for ſome time with uncommon dilligence; but, being corrupted by a ſet of ſtage-players, who came thither, he indulged himſelf in all the levities and extravagance of youth, till at laſt he was happily reclaimed by Mr. ſerjeant Glanvill. He then applied to the ſtudy of the law, and entered himſelf in Lincolns-Inn, London. He was a particular favourite

rite of Noy, the attorney general, who directed him in his ſtudies, as alſo of the famous Mr. Selden, who left him one of his executors. During the civil wars he behaved ſo well, as to gain the good will of both parties. By the royaliſts, eſpecially, he was ſo much eſteemed, that he was choſen one of the council to the earl of Strafford, archbiſhop Laud, and king Charles himſelf; as likewiſe to the duke of Hamilton, the earl of Holland, the lord Capel, and the lord Craven. After the death of his royal maſter, he took the engagement, and was appointed one of the juſtices of the Common Pleas; but, upon the death of Oliver Cromwell, he refuſed to accept of the new commiſſion from his ſon, and ſucceſſor, Richard. In the healing parliament, which reſtored king Charles the Second, he was returned one of the members for the county of Glouceſter; and was, ſoon after, conſtituted lord chief baron of the Exchequer: but, in order to avoid the honour of knighthood, which was uſually conferred upon perſons in his ſtation, he declined for ſome time waiting upon his majeſty. The lord chancellor Hyde obſerving this circumſtance, ſent for him one day upon buſineſs, when the king was at his houſe; and on his coming, ſaid to his majeſty, "There is your modeſt chief baron;" upon which he was immediately knighted. In 1671, he was advanced to the important office of lord chief juſtice of the King's Bench, which he held about four years and a half, when, his health declining, he prudently reſigned it. He died on the 25th of December, 1676, and was interred in Alderley church. He wrote books in law, phyſic, and divinity. His Pleas of the crown are greatly admired.

About five miles to the weſt of Wotton-Under-Edge is TETBURY, which is ſeated on a riſing

The North View of Beverton Caſtle, *in the County of* Glouceſter.



Vol. VIII. pa 137.

riſing ground, and in a healthy air, near the borders of Wiltſhire, twenty-five miles north-eaſt of Briſtol, ten ſouth-weſt of Cirenceſter, and ninety-three weſt of London. The chief inconvenience ſuffered by the inhabitants is the want of water in dry ſummers, when it is ſometimes ſo dear, as to be ſold for eighteen pence a hogſhead. Here is a large handſome church, a free-ſchool, and an alms-houſe for eight poor people; and at the end of the town is a very high bridge of conſiderable length, half of which is in Wiltſhire. The revenues of the town are managed by a bailiff choſen annually. The market, which is on Wedneſdays, is very conſiderable for yarn and wool, beſides corn, cattle, cheeſe, malt, and other proviſions; and there are two fairs, the firſt on Aſh-Wedneſday, and the other on the 22d of July, for horned cattle, ſheep and horſes.

Beverton Castle is a mile north-weſt of Tetbury, and was formerly called Bureſtan, on account of the blue ſtones found hereabouts. The caſtle, of which we have given a view, is very ancient, and was of great ſtrength, as appears from what remains, moſt of the walls being ſtill ſtanding; it is moated round, and has a tower at each corner. It now belongs to Sir Henry Hicks, Bart. In the civil wars it was fortified and defended ſometimes by one party, and ſometimes by the other. This place had a market and fair, granted by Edward the Firſt, but they have been long diſuſed. Some think this was a Roman ſtation, becauſe ſome years ago, in an adjoining field, there were found a great number of Roman coins, a large ſtatue of ſtone, and a chequered and enamelled fibula veſtiaria of amber.

About nine miles to the north-eaſt of Tetbury is Cirencester, commonly called Ciceter, which took its name from its having been a ceſter

or

or caſtle upon the ſmall river Churn, which falls into the Thames at Cricklade in Wiltſhire. It is thirty-five miles eaſt-north-eaſt of Briſtol, and ſeventy-nine weſt by north of London.

Cirenceſter is ſeated on the river Churn, over which it has a bridge, and is by ſome thought to be the oldeſt, and to have been formerly the largeſt town in the county. Its ancient name is Durocornovium, for, according to the itinerary, it was fourteen miles from Clevum. The courſe of the military way from Glouceſter to Cirenceſter is certain, and in many places very viſible and large. This town ſtands where the Roman way interſects and croſſes the foſs, and has ſtill all the marks and evidences of a Roman ſtation. It is ſaid, that the emperor Conſtantine was crowned king of the Britons in this city; but this is not very certain: be that as it will, we know it was ſtrongly fortified with walls and a caſtle in the time of the Romans; for there are the ruins of the walls and ſtreets, in the adjoining meadows; and many Roman coins, chequered pavements, and inſcriptions on marble, have been often found here.

A great part of the ground comprehended in the walls of this city is now paſture, corn fields or gardens. They dig up antiquities every day, eſpecially in the gardens, and in the plain fields, ſuch as Moſaic pavements, rings, intaglios, and innumerable coins; eſpecially in a great garden, called Lewes grounds, which in Welch ſignifies a palace. Dr. Stukeley takes this to be the Prætorium, or head magiſtrate's quarters. Large quantities of carved ſtones are carried off yearly in carts for mending the highways, beſides what are uſeful for building. A fine Moſaic pavement was dug up here in September 1723, with many coins. Dr. Stukeley bought a little head, which had been broke off from a baſſo relievo, that ſeems by the tiara,

tiara, which is of a very odd ſhape, to be the genius of the city. The gardener told him, he had lately found a fine little braſs image, which the Doctor ſuppoſes to be one of the lares. Mr. Biſhop, owner of the garden, dug into a vault ſixteen feet long and twelve broad, ſupported with ſquare pillars of Roman brick, three feet and a half high; and on it was a ſtrong floor of terras. There are ſeveral more vaults near it, on which grow cherry trees, like the hanging gardens of Babylon. Theſe he takes to be the foundations of a temple, for in the ſame place were found ſeveral ſtones of the ſhafts of pillars, ſix feet long, and baſes of ſtone, near as big in compaſs as his ſummer-houſe adjoining. Theſe, with the cornices very handſomely moulded and carved with modillons, and the like ornaments, were converted into hog troughs. Some of the ſtones of the baſes were faſtened together with cramps of iron, inſomuch, that they were forced to employ horſes to draw them aſunder; and they now lie before the door of his houſe as a pavement. Capitals of theſe pillars were likewiſe found, and a crooked cramp of iron, ten or twelve feet long, which probably was for the architraves of a circular portico.

About a quarter of a mile eaſt of the town is a mount, or barrow, called Starbury, where ſeveral gold Roman coins have been dug up, of about the time of Julian.

Cirenceſter is governed by two high conſtables, and fourteen wardſmen, who are appointed yearly by the court-leet, and preſide over the ſeven diſtinct wards of the town. It ſends two members to parliament, and every houſe-keeper, not receiving alms, has a vote. It had once three pariſh churches, but has now only one, in which are twenty-eight windows of painted glaſs, repreſenting ſcripture hiſtories, and the hiſtory of ſeveral

fathers

fathers and martyrs, with the religious orders of the church of Rome, from the pope to the mendicant friars. Here are alſo ſeveral meeting-houſes of proteſtant diſſenters; a free-ſchool, and a charity-ſchool for about ninety children, and ſeveral hoſpitals and alms-houſes. Here are two markets, one on Mondays, for corn, cattle and proviſions, and the other on Fridays. This laſt is one of the greateſt markets in the kingdom for wool and woollen manufactures, there having been ſome years no leſs than 5000 packs of wool brought hither from Lincolnſhire, Leiceſterſhire, and Northamptonſhire, and ſold to the clothiers of Gloceſterſhire and Wiltſhire. Here are alſo three fairs, held on Eaſter-Tueſday, July 18, and November 8, for horned cattle, ſheep, horſes, wool, oil, and leather.

There was here a rich college of prebendaries before the conqueſt; and in 1117, king Henry the Firſt built a ſtately abbey, which he dedicated to the Virgin Mary; and this was ſo liberally endowed by him, and ſeveral ſucceeding kings, that at the diſſolution it was valued at 1051 l. 7 s. a year. It had the privilege of a mitred abbey, and in the reign of Henry the Fifth, the abbot obtained a ſeat in the Houſe of Lords. However, very little of the abbey is now remaining, except two old gatehouſes.

An hoſpital, dedicated to St. John the Evangeliſt, was likewiſe founded here by king Henry the Firſt, for three poor men, and three poor women, which is yet in being; and each of theſe ſix perſons has an allowance of one ſhilling and eight pence weekly, with a ſhare in the fines, for the renewal of leaſes of the lands, with which the hoſpital is endowed, when they happen. St. Lawrence's hoſpital in this town was founded in the reign of Edward the Third, by Edith, lady

of

of one Wigold, for a maſter and two poor women. The maſter was formerly nominated by the abbot, but is now preſented by the king; and each of the two women is allowed about two ſhillings and ſixpence a week. Beſides theſe, there is St. Thomas's hoſpital, which was founded for four decayed weavers, by Sir William Nottingham, who died in the year 1427. This is yet in being, under the government of the weaver's company.

With reſpect to the hiſtory of this town, it will be proper to obſerve, that after the Romans left this iſland, the Britons defended themſelves in this city againſt the Weſt Saxons; till in the year 577, the reſt of Briton being conquered, Glouceſter, Bath, and this city ſubmitted to the Saxons; but in the year 656, Penda, the firſt chriſtian king of Mercia, took it from them. In 879, it was taken by the Danes, who built a tower here, now called Triſmon tower, from the name of the general. Since the Norman conqueſt, and in the reign of king Stephen, Robert earl of Glouceſter put a garriſon in this town, when he attempted to reſtore Maud the empreſs to the throne.

In the barons wars againſt Henry the Third, this caſtle had a garriſon put in it by them; but the king ſoon recovered it, and cauſed it to be demoliſhed. In the reign of Henry the Fourth, Thomas Holland, duke of Surry, the earl of Saliſbury, and other noblemen, retreating to Cirenceſter, and lodging in an inn, the bailiff of the town and townſmen aſſaulted the houſe, ſlew them, and ſent their heads to London. For this ſervice, Henry granted the inhabitants all the goods of the ſaid noblemen, and their adherents, except money, plate, and jewels. He alſo granted to the men four does in the ſeaſon, ſix bucks to the women,

women, and one hogſhead of wine from Briſtol. He likewiſe made the town a court of ſtaple for merchandize, in conſequence whereof it became a corporation, conſiſting of a mayor, two conſtables, and the commonalty; but this charter was cancelled in queen Elizabeth's reign. This town had alſo a ſhare in the wars in the reign of Charles the Firſt; for in it was committed the firſt act of rebellion in 1641, and in 1642 it was made a garriſon for the parliament. Prince Rupert took it by ſtorm, and made 1200 priſoners, but it was ſoon after retaken by the earl of Eſſex.

Nine miles north-eaſt of Cirenceſter is NORTHLEACH, or NORTHLECHE, a ſmall town, eighteen miles eaſt of Gloceſter, and eighty to the weſtward of London. It is ſo called from its ſituation upon the river Leache, and has a neat and ſpacious church, which has a large tower, with handſome windows. It has a good grammar-ſchool, free to all the boys of the town; and endowed with 80l. a year, by Hugh Weſtwold, Eſq; who being afterwards reduced, is ſaid to have ſolicited the truſtees to be maſter of it himſelf, but had the mortification to be denied. By a decree of chancery, in the reign of king James the Firſt, this ſchool was ſettled on Queen's College, Oxford. There are ſeveral alms-houſes in this pariſh, but only one of note, built by Thomas Dutton, Eſq; for ſix poor women, who have each twenty pence a week for their maintenance. There is here a market on Wedneſdays, and three fairs, which are held on the Wedneſday before April 23, for cows and ſheep; on the Wedneſday before September 29, for horſes and ſmall ware; and on the third Wedneſday in May, for cheeſe and cattle. The famous Roman highway, called the Foſſe, which comes out of Warwickſhire,

enters

enters this county at Lemington, and paſſes thro' this town to Cirenceſter.

FARMINGTON, a village about a mile north of Northleach, is remarkable for having in the pariſh a large Roman camp, called Norbury, which is 850 paces long, and 4[illegible]3 broad; but it is now a corn field; and to the weſtward of it is a barrow.

Eight miles north-eaſt of the laſt-mentioned town, is STOW ON THE WOULD, ſixty ſeven miles north of Saliſbury, and ſeventy-ſeven weſt by north of London. It ſtands ſo high, and is ſo much expoſed to the winds, that the inhabitants are ſaid to have but one element, there being neither wood, common, field, nor water, belonging to the town. The church, which is a large building, with a high tower, contains ſeveral monuments; and as it ſtands on a hill, may be ſeen at a great diſtance. It has a free-ſchool, an hoſpital, an alms-houſe, and other charitable foundations, all well endowed, the poor being very numerous. Here is a market on Thurſdays, and two fairs; one on the 12th of May, for horſes, cows, ſheep and cheeſe; and the other on the 24th of October, for hops, ſaddlers, ſhoemakers and ironmongers goods. It is ſaid, that 20,000 ſheep have been ſold at the former of theſe fairs. The Roman foſſe-way paſſes by this town.

About three miles north of Stow is MORTON-IN-MARSH, which is ſituated twenty-nine miles eaſt of Worceſter, and eighty-three weſt-north-weſt of London. It extends two furlongs in length on the foſſe-way, and is a great thoroughfare in the road from London to Worceſter. About a mile from hence, in the London road, are the four ſhire ſtones, where the counties of Gloceſter, Oxford, Worceſter, and Warwick, meet. The church is only a chapel of eaſe, and is a ſmall ſtructure, with a tower at the weſt end. This

town

town has a market on Tuesdays, and two small fairs; the first on the 5th of April, and the other on the 10th of October, for cattle.

About four miles to the northward of Morton-in-Marsh is CAMPDEN, or CAMDEN, a town of great antiquity, seated under the side of a hill, on the borders of Worcestershire, twenty-seven miles north of Leachlade, seventy-six north by east of Salisbury, and eighty-six west north-west of London. It was incorporated by king James the First, and is governed by two bailiffs, twelve burgesses, and a steward, who have the power of chooſing twelve inferior burgesses. The church is a large and beautiful structure, with isles on each side, two chapels, a spacious chancel, and a handsome tower, 105 feet high. In this church are many fine marble monuments, the most sumptuous of which is supported by twelve pillars, and was erected in memory of Sir Baptist Hicks, viscount Campden, who erected an alms-house for six poor men, and as many women, with an allowance of three shillings and four-pence a week to each person, besides a black gown, and coals. He also rebuilt the market-house. There is likewise a grammar-school in this town, endowed with 60 l. a year, for the maintenance of the master and usher, with a charity-school, founded by James Thynne, who gave 1000 l. for erecting and endowing it, for the teaching of thirty poor girls to read, knit and spin, as well as to buy them cloaths; and the mistress 10 l. a year for instructing them. There are also many gifts of bread to be distributed weekly to the poor, namely, six dozen every Sunday, besides 40 l. 10 s. a year, to be laid out in bread at discretion. There are some remains of a seat built here by lord Campden, which the royalists burnt down in the civil wars, to prevent its being a garrison for the parliament.

This

This town now gives the title of baron to Charles Pratt, lord high chancellor of Great Britain; and is famous for the manufacture of ſtockings. It has a market on Wedneſdays, and four fairs, which are held on Aſh Wedneſday, the 23d of April, the 25th of July, and the 3d of November, for horſes, cows, ſheep, linen-cloth, and ſtockings. This town was formerly a place of ſuch conſequence, that the Saxon kings, in the time of the heptarchy, met here, to conſult about making war and peace with the Britons.

Toddington is a village ſix miles ſouth by weſt of Camden, once famous for a Ciſtercian abbey, of which there are now no remains, except a neat cloyſter. It was founded by Richard, earl of Cornwall, king of the Romans, who placed in in it twenty Ciſtercian monks.

Two miles to the ſouth of Toddington, and nine to the ſouth-weſt of Camden, is Winchcomb, which was anciently a county of itſelf, and was a borough in the reign of king Edward the Confeſſor. It contains about 300 houſes, and has an alms-houſe for twelve poor women. The inhabitants made great profit of planting tobacco, till they were reſtrained in the twelfth year of king Charles the Second, from which time the town decayed by little and little, and is now poor and inconſiderable. The church is only a curacy, but is a large ſtructure, covered with lead, and has a lofty tower, adorned with battlements and pinnacles, two handſome iſles, and a ſpacious chancel. The town has a market on Saturdays, and two fairs, held on May 16, and July 28, for horſes, ſheep, and horned cattle.

Offa, king of the Mercians, is ſaid to have built a nunnery here in 787; but Kenulph, king of Mercia, in 798, converted it into an abbey for 300 Benedictine monks, and dedicated it to the

Virgin Mary. It had great revenues, and the abbot was mitred. Its lands being afterwards alienated, Oſwald, biſhop of Worceſter, in 985, recovered the lands, reformed the diſcipline of the monks, and dedicated the houſe to St. Kenulph, the martyred ſon of the founder. The laſt abbot was a great ſtickler for the privileges of the church, and maintained, that the taking away the benefit of the clergy from murderers, was againſt the law of God.

SUDLEY, or SEWDLEY, is a village about a mile eaſt of Winchcomb. The church was formerly a neat and beautiful ſtructure, but was ſo defaced and ruined in the civil wars, that only a part of it can be uſed for divine ſervice. There are here the remains of a caſtle, which was built, or as others ſay, repaired and enlarged, by Ralph de Boteler, lord treaſurer, who was created baron of Sewdley, in the twentieth year of the reign of king Henry the Sixth, but he having no iſſue male, ſold it to king Edward the Fourth, ſo that it continued in the crown till the reign of queen Mary the Firſt, when Sir John Bruges, or Bridges, married an heireſs of the family of Chandois, and was by this queen created baron of Sewdley; in which noble family the honour of this barony ſtill remains; but George lord Chandois, a deſcendant of the former, having no heir male, gave the manor to his wife Jane, daughter of John, earl of Rivers; who married George Pitt, Eſq; of Stratfield in Hampſhire, whoſe ſon George is now lord thereof. A great part of the walls of the caſtle are demoliſhed, but there are two towers ſtill ſtanding, with apartments between. Of this ſtructure we have given a view engraved on copper.

HALES-ABBEY, which is ſituated about two miles to the northward of Winchcomb, was built by Richard Plantagenet, ſecond ſon of king John, and

The South West View of Sewdley Caſtle, *in the County of* Glouceſter.

Vol. III. pa. 1.16.

and brother to king Henry the Third, earl of Cornwall, and king of the Romans, purſuant to a vow he had made when in extreme danger at ſea, he placed in it Ciſtercian monks, and dedicated it to St. Mary, and all the ſaints. It was conſecrated with unuſual pomp in the preſence of the king, queen, a great number of the nobility, and 300 knights, by Walter Cantilupe, biſhop of Worceſter and thirteen other biſhops aſſiſting.

Edward, the ſon of the founder of this monaſtery, was ſaid to have given ſome of the blood of Chriſt thereto; and the monks gave it out, that if a man had committed a mortal ſin, and was not abſolved, he could not ſee the blood; but as ſoon as he was abſolved he might plainly diſcern it. This they made a great advantage of for many ages; for when the ſinner was not to ſee the blood, they placed a very thick glaſs before it, till he had paid for as many maſſes as they pleaſed, at a great price; and then they changed the glaſs for one that was thin and tranſparent, and it appeared to his great joy. This blood at the diſſolution was found to be the blood of a duck, renewed every week. This abbey was governed by a mitred abbot, and was valued at 357 l. a year. The ruins of the walls ſhew that it was of great extent, and part of it is converted into one or more dwelling-houſes.

Five miles ſouth-weſt of Winchcomb is CHELTENHAM, which takes its name from its being ſituated on a brook called the Chilt, which falls into the Severn, and is ſituated nine miles north-eaſt of Gloceſter, thirty-eight ſouth-weſt of Warwick, and ninety-five weſt-north-weſt of London. The town contains about 300 houſes, and has a church built in the form of a croſs, with iſles on each ſide, and a high ſpire in the middle. An hoſpital and ſchool were erected here in the year

1578, the former of which is to maintain ſix poor people, each of whom is allowed a ſhilling a week. The remianing part of the endowment is given to the ſchool-maſter and uſher, which is 60l. a year. Mr. Walwen alſo gave 50l. a year to the poor of this place, which is employed in binding out poor children apprentices, and in occaſional charities.

This town is moſt famous for its mineral ſpring, but it is not now ſo much in requeſt as it was a few years ago. It was ſaid to be diſcovered by pigeons, who flocked to eat the ſalt, after the water was evaporated by the heat of the ſun. But of this water we have already given a very particular account, after treating of the rivers of this county. We ſhall therefore only add, that this town carries on a conſiderable trade in malt, and has a market on Thurſdays, with three fairs, held on the ſecond Thurſday in April, and on Holy-Thurſday, for all ſorts of cattle; and alſo on the 5th of Auguſt, for lambs.

About ſix miles to the north-weſt of Cheltenham is TEWKSBURY, a pretty large and populous town, ſituated at the conflux of the Severn, with the Avon that runs out of Warwickſhire; which rivers, with the ſmaller ſtreams of the Carron and the Swallgate, almoſt encompaſs the town. It ſtands fifteen miles ſouth of Worceſter, ten north of Gloceſter, forty-ſix north-eaſt of Briſtol, and ninety-ſix weſt-north-weſt of London. It received its firſt privileges from king Edward the Second; theſe were confirmed by ſeveral of the ſucceeding kings; and the town was at length reincorporated by king James the Firſt. Tewkſbury is governed by twenty-four burgeſſes, two of whom are annually choſen bailiffs, who are the ruling magiſtrates, and have juriſdiction within the borough, excluſive of the juſtices of the peace for the

the county. These magistrates, together with the freeholders and freemen, who amount to about 500, choose the members to serve in parliament. It is a large, beautiful, and populous town, consisting of three well built streets, and many lanes. It has a bridge over three of the four rivers that run by it, and a church, which is a large, noble structure, with two handsome turrets at each end, and a stately tower, also adorned with turrets. The communion table consists of one entire piece of marble, thirteen feet eight inches long, and three feet and a half broad, and stands in the middle of the choir. This structure is adorned with a number of funeral monuments, particularly several of the earls of Gloceſter and Warwick, prince Edward, the son of Henry the Sixth, and the duke of Clarence, brother to Edward the Fourth. Here are also several meeting-houses of dissenters, and a free-school, erected by William Ferrers, in 1675, who gave 20 l. a year for the maintenance of a master, to which several other benefactors have made considerable additions. Here is also an hospital, endowed with 40 l. a year by the late queen Mary, to be paid out of the Exchequer, for the maintenance of thirteen poor people, and a reader, who is appointed by the corporation; and in the church-yard is an almshouse for ten poor widows, but without any endowments. All writers who give an account of this town, take notice of its excellent mustard balls, but none have been made here time out of mind, though there doubtless were formerly. This town was also once famous for its woollen manufacture, but now it has one of knit cottons. It has a market on Saturdays, and five fairs, which are held on March 7, May 14, June 22, September 4, and October 10, for tanned leather, cattle, and pedlary.

Tewkſbury was formerly famous for its monaſtery, built by two brothers, Odo and Dodo, who were then dukes of great account in the kingdom of Mercia. It was dedicated to the Virgin Mary, and at firſt only endowed with the manor of Stanway. Hugh, earl of Mercia, was the patron of this priory in the year 800, and Bricktric, king of the Weſt Saxons, was buried here. Robert Fitz-Haimon, in the year 1102, new built it, and made great endowments, advancing it to an abbey. His daughter Mabilla, wife of Robert, earl of Glouceſter, built the priory of St. James's at Briſtol, and ſubjected it to this abbey. Gilbert de Clare, earl of Gloceſter and Hereford, with ſeveral of the families of the Deſpencers and Beauchamps, were great benefactors to it, ſome of whom are buried here; it was valued at the ſuppreſſion at 1598 l. a year. The church is ſtill ſtanding, and is now the pariſh church above deſcribed.

This place is alſo famous for a bloody battle fought here, between the two houſes of York and Lancaſter, when Edward the Fourth entirely defeated Henry the Sixth, taking the queen, prince Edward, and many of the nobility who ſided with Henry priſoners. The young prince, who was but eighteen years of age, being brought into the king's tent, appeared before him with an undaunted countenance; and Edward aſking him, how he came to be ſo raſh as thus to enter his kingdom in arms; he bravely replied, "That he came to recover his own inheritance, which had been unjuſtly uſurped." On which the king, inſtead of admiring his intrepidity, ſtruck him on the mouth with his gauntlet, and turning from him withdrew, when the dukes of Clarence and Gloceſter, the king's brothers, the earl of Dorſet, and the lord Haſtings, ſtept up to the young prince, and barbarouſly

barbarouſly ſtabbed him with their daggers; after which, that party was never able to make head again.

DEERHURST, a village two miles ſouth of Tewkſbury, with a pariſh belonging to it, lies very low, and often receives damage from the overflowing of the Severn. It had formerly a ſmall but very ancient monaſtery, built by Dodo, a a great nobleman of Mercia, about the year 715, in memory of his brother Almeric, buried in this place. It was afterwards deſtroyed by the Danes, and lay for many years in a low condition, but was rebuilt, and again inhabited before the year 980. King Edward the Confeſſor gave it, with all the lands belonging to it, to the Benedictine monks of the abbey of St. Dennis in France, to which it became a cell. At length Henry the Sixth being at war with France, would not ſuffer it to be under the patronage of the abbey of St. Dennis, and gave this cell to the abbey of Tewkſbury. In the nineteenth year of Henry the Sixth, that prince founded the college of Eton near Windſor, and gave moſt of the lands belonging to this monaſtery to that college.

Beſides the eminent perſons already mentioned, the following great men have been born in this county.

Sebaſtian Benefield, an eminent divine of the ſeventeenth century, was born at Preſtonbury, on the 12th of Auguſt, 1559. He was educated at Corpus Chriſti College in Oxford; and after having taken the degrees of maſter of arts, and doctor in divinity, was choſen Margaret profeſſor in that univerſity. He filled the divinity-chair with great reputation, for the ſpace of fourteen years, when he thought proper to reſign it, in order to retire to the rectory of Meyſey-Hampton in Gloceſterſhire, to which he had lately been col-

lated. He died in the parſonage houſe of that pariſh Auguſt the 24th, 1630. Dr. Benefield wrote ſeveral works, conſiſting chiefly of ſermons and expoſitions of the ſcripture.

William Cartwright, an eminent divine and poet of the ſeventeenth century, was born at Northway, near Tewkſbury, in this county, in the month of September 1611. He had his education, firſt at the free-ſchool in Cirenceſter, afterwards at Weſtminſter-ſchool, and laſtly, at Chriſt's church, Oxford, of which he was entered a ſtudent in 1628. Having taken the degrees in arts, he entered into holy orders, and became a moſt popular and eloquent preacher. He was afterwards appointed ſuccentor in the church of Saliſbury, and metaphyſical reader to the univerſity. He died December the 23d, 1643, in the thirty-third year of his age. He wrote four plays, beſides other poems.

Edward Chamberlayne, author of *The Preſent State of England*, and of ſeveral other works, was deſcended from an eminent and ancient family, and born at Odington, in Glouceſterſhire, December the 13th, 1616. He was educated at Glouceſter, and at St. Edmund-hall in Oxford, where he took the degrees of bachelor and maſter of arts; and in 1641 was appointed rhetoric reader of the univerſity. During the civil wars he travelled into foreign parts. After the reſtoration, he was choſen a fellow of the Royal Society; appointed tutor to Henry, duke of Grafton, one of the natural ſons of king Charles the Second; and afterwards became inſtructor in the Engliſh tongue, to George, prince of Denmark. He died at Chelſea, near London, in 1703. One remarkable circumſtance in his will may be worth mentioning. He ordered ſome books of his own compoſition to be covered with wax, and to be buried

buried with him; which (as he said) may possibly be of use to future ages.

Sir Robert Atkins, lord chief baron of the Exchequer, was descended of a very ancient family in this county where he was born, in the year 1621. He had his education in Baliol-college, Oxford. On account of his sufferings during the civil wars, he was, on the restoration of king Charles the Second, made knight of the Bath, together with many other persons of distinction. In 1672, he was appointed one of the judges of the court of Common-Pleas, in which honourable station he continued till 1679, when, foreseeing the troubles that soon after ensued, he thought fit to resign, and retire into the country. In 1689, he was made lord chief baron of the exchequer; and about the same time executed the office of speaker to the House of Lords, which had been previously refused by the marquis of Hallifax. He died in the beginning of 1709, in the 88th year of his age. He was the author of several tracts; all of them of the political kind; which were afterwards collected and published in one volume.

Richard Atkins, author of some pieces, particularly of a *Treatise concerning the Origin and Growth of Printing*, was descended of a good family seated at Tuffleigh in Glocestershire. After having studied about two years at Oxford, he travelled into France, with a son of lord Arundel of Wardour; but that young gentleman in a little time dying, he returned home; and, upon the breaking out of the civil wars, raised at his own expence a troop of horse for the service of king Charles the First. After the restoration he was appointed one of the deputy-lieutenants of Glocestershire; but having run himself in debt, he was committed prisoner to the Marshalsea goal in Southwark, where he died September the 14th,

1677, and was buried in the church of St. George the Martyr.

Edward Fowler, biſhop of Glouceſter, in the ſeventeenth and eighteenth centuries, was born at Weſterleigh in this county, in the year 1632. He had his education at the college-ſchool in Glouceſter, and afterwards at Corpus Chriſti college in Oxford, from whence he removed to Cambridge, where, having taken the degrees of bachelor and maſter of arts, he was preſented to the rectory of North-hill in Bedfordſhire. Having been educated in the Preſbyterian way, he ſcrupled embracing, for ſome time, the terms of conformity at the reſtoration; but he afterwards conformed, and became a great ornament to the church. In 1673, he was collated to the rectory of Allhallows, Bread-ſtreet, in London, and ſoon after to the vicarage of St. Giles's, Cripplegate. During the ſtruggle between Proteſtantiſm and Popery, he ſignalized himſelf by his writings and ſermons. After the revolution he was promoted to the biſhopric of Glouceſter; and in this ſee he continued till his death, which happened at Chelſea, Auguſt 26, 1714. He publiſhed a variety of tracts in defence of the Chriſtian religion.

Robert Huntington, a learned divine of the ſeventeenth and eighteenth centuries, was the ſecond ſon of Robert Huntington, miniſter of Deorhyrſt in Glouceſterſhire, and was born there in February 1636. Having finiſhed his ſtudies at Merton college in Oxford, where he rendered himſelf a complete maſter of the oriental languages, he was choſen chaplain to the Engliſh factory at Aleppo; for which place he ſet ſail in 1670. During his reſidence there, which was for the ſpace of eleven years, he employed himſelf chiefly in collecting oriental manuſcripts, of-

which

which he amaſſed a very great number. He likewiſe viſited Jeruſalem and Palmyra; and travelled over almoſt all Galilee and Samaria. Upon his return to his native country, he took the degrees of batchelor and doctor in divinity; was appointed maſter of Trinity college in Dublin, and elected biſhop of Raphoe in Ireland, to which he was conſecrated Auguſt the 20th, 1701. But he did not long enjoy his new dignity; for he died on the 2d of September of the ſame year, twelve days after his conſecration. His manuſcripts were ſold to the Bodleian library for 700 l.

John Oldham, ſtiled the *Engliſh Juvenal*, was the ſon of John Oldham, a non-conformiſt miniſter, and born at Shipton in Glouceſterſhire, Auguſt the 9th, 1653. After finiſhing his ſtudies at Oxford, he became uſher of the free-ſchool at Croyden; where he received a viſit from the earls of Rocheſter and Dorſet, Sir Charles Sedley, and other perſons of diſtinction, merely upon the reputation of ſome verſes of his, which they had ſeen in manuſcript. Upon his quitting that ſchool, he acted as tutor to ſeveral gentlemens children; and then coming up to London, fell into the acquaintance of Mr. Dryden, and of all the other wits and geniuſſes of the age. He reſided, for the moſt part, with the earl of Kingſton, at Holme-Pierpoint in Nottinghamſhire, where being ſeized with the ſmall-pox, he was carried off by that fatal diſeaſe, December the 9th, 1683, when he had hardly yet attained to his thirtieth year. His works are numerous.

Joſeph Trapp, an excellent ſcholar and pious divine, in the beginning of the preſent century, was the ſon of a clergyman, and born, in the year 1679, at Cherrington in Glouceſterſhire. He received his education at Wadham-college, Oxford,

ford, of which he became a fellow. The firſt ſpecimen he gave of his abilities, was his tragedy called *Abramule*, or *Love and Empire*, which was brought upon the ſtage in 1704. About four years after he was appointed profeſſor of poetry in the univerſity of Oxford, being the firſt perſon who diſcharged that honourable office; and the lectures, which he read in Latin, were publiſhed in 8vo. At the expiration of his profeſſorſhip, which is limited to ten years, he removed to the metropolis, and was choſen lecturer of St. Martin's in the Fields, Weſtminſter. He was afterwards made rector of Harlington in Middleſex, and vicar of the united pariſhes of Chriſt-church in Newgate-ſtreet, and St. Leonard's Foſter-lane in London. And all theſe benefices he enjoyed till his death, which happened on the 22d of November 1747. He tranſlated Virgil into Engliſh verſe, and Milton's Paradiſe Loſt into Latin. He likewiſe wrote among other pieces a poem, intitled, *The Four laſt Things*; or *Death and Judgment*, *Heaven and Hell*. His taſte as a critic is univerſally allowed; but his genius as a poet is not ſo generally admitted.

HAMP-

HAMPSHIRE.

HAMPSHIRE, or the county of Hants, was called by the Saxons Hamtunſcyre, from Hampton, ſince called Southampton, the county town. It was afterwards called Hamteſchyre, and hence its preſent names of Hampſhire and Hants are derived. This county is bounded on the north by Berkſhire; on the eaſt by Surry and Suſſex; on the ſouth by the Britiſh channel; and on the weſt by Dorſetſhire and Wiltſhire; it extending ſixty-four miles in length from north to ſouth, and thirty-ſix in breadth from eaſt to weſt, without including the Iſle of Wight, and is 150 miles in circumference. The city of Wincheſter, which is ſeated nearly in the centre of the county, is ſixty-ſeven miles ſouth-weſt of London.

At the invaſion of the Romans, a great part of this county was poſſeſſed by the Regni and the Belgæ. The former were a tribe of the ancient Britons, and the Belgæ a people of Germany, who, on paſſing the Rhine, poſſeſſed themſelves of part of Gaul, and then ſailed over to the ſouth-weſt coaſt of Briton, in order to plunder the inhabitants, and carry back their ſpoil; but liking the country, they drove the Britons out of the places, long after called Somerſetſhire, Wiltſhire, and the inland parts of Hampſhire, of which they took poſſeſſion, and were found there by Caeſar when he made his expedition into Britain.

This

This county is thought to be the first that submitted to the Romans. Though less than many others in England, it had, according to some authors, six Roman stations, called Calleva, Vindoma, Venta, Belgarum, Claucentum, Brige, and Cunitio. We are informed by Dr. Stukeley, that a Roman road runs parallel to the great Ikening street, from the south-west to the north-east, beginning at the sea-coast by Rumsey in this county, and ending at the sea-coast in Suffolk. Indeed the remains of the town of Sylchester, with the Roman coins dug up in many other parts, are sufficient evidence that this county had many Roman settlements.

When the Saxons invaded the island, the inhabitants kept it sixty years after the first landing of Hengist; but Cerdic, the founder of the kingdom of the West-Saxons, landing at Chardford, in the beginning of the sixth century, reduced all the southern shore, a far as the country of the Damnonii, to his authority. The posterity of Cerdic ruled the whole country of the Belgae for several generations; but at length this county was taken from it, and, for a time, rendered a petty kingdom. In the reign of king Ethelbert, and the year 860, the Danes invading the Isle of Wight, ravaged all before them as far as Winchester; but as they were returning, Osric, earl of Hampton, assisted by the men of Berkshire, defeated them, and recovered the spoils. After the Saxons had been settled some time in these parts, they divided the country of the Belgae into three counties, namely, Somersetshire, Wiltshire, and Hampshire.

The air of Hampshire is almost in every part of it pure and healthy, especially in the fine Downs, which extend across the county from east to west, and divide it nearly into equal parts; it is even observed, that the vapours in the low grounds

grounds next the ſea are leſs pernicious than thoſe in other countries, and the air much more healthy than the hundreds of Eſſex, and the marſhy parts of Kent.

The low lands produce a great quantity of corn, particularly wheat and barley; but the hilly parts, which are leſs fertile, are only fit for ſheep. The horned cattle here have nothing remarkable, but the ſheep and hogs excel all others in England; for both the wool and the fleſh of the ſheep are remarkably fine; and the hogs being never put into ſtyes, but ſupplied with great plenty of acorns, which they find in the woods, the bacon made of them is greatly ſuperior to any other in this kingdom. The county of Hants is likewiſe famous for its honey, it being ſaid to produce both the beſt and the worſt in England; for that of the champain country is eſteemed the beſt, and the honey collected from the heath is reckoned the worſt. It has more wood than any other county in England, eſpecially oak, and hence the greateſt part of the Engliſh navy is built and repaired with the timber that grows here. This county is abundantly ſupplied with game of all kinds, as well as with ſea and river fiſh, the former yielding large quantities of ſoals, flounders, crabs and lobſters; ſo that the inhabitants enjoy the greateſt plenty of the neceſſaries and conveniencies of life.

The principal rivers of this county are the Avon, the Teſe, and the Itching. The Avon riſes in Wiltſhire, and paſſes thro' Saliſbury, where it begins to be navigable: it enters Hampſhire at a village named Charford, and running ſouthward by Ringwood to Chriſtchurch, receives the Stour, a conſiderable river, from Dorſetſhire, and then falls into the Britiſh channel.

The

The Teſe, or Teſt, riſes in the north part of Hampſhire, and running ſouthward forms ſeveral iſlands at Stockbridge; and then paſſing by Rumſey, falls into an arm of the ſea called Southampton-bay, which reaches ſeveral miles up the country.

The Itching, alſo called the Alre, has its ſource at Chilton Candover, a village near Alreſford, from whence it runs ſouth-weſt to the city of Wincheſter, and from thence flows directly ſouth till it diſcharges itſelf into Southampton-bay. This river was made navigable from Wincheſter to Southampton, ſo early as the reign of William the Conqueror.

Among the uncommon plants growing wild in this county are the following.

Marſh St. Peter's worth with woolly leaves, *Aſcyrum ſupinum villoſum paluſtre*, C. B. Park. On a rotton mooriſh ground not far from Southampton, abundantly.

The great Engliſh marſh fox-tail graſs, *Alopecuros maxima Anglica*, Park. *Altera maxima Anglica paludoſa*, Ger. In the moiſt paſtures of this county.

The leaſt Engliſh black bindweed, *Ciſſampelos altera Anglica minima*, Park. This grows about Drayton near Portſmouth. It differs little from the common black bindweed but in the ſmallneſs of its parts; which may be owing to the barrenneſs of the ſoil.

True oak fern, *Dryopteris penae & lobelli*, Ger. emac. p. 1135. Found in a very wet bog, called White-row-moor, a mile from Petersfield.

Engliſh low ſea-heath, *Erica maritima Anglica ſupina*, Park. Found about Portſmouth.

Engliſh ſea-tree-mallow, *Malva arborea marina noſtras*, Park. About Hurſt-caſtle, near the Iſle of Wight.

French

French mercury, the male and female, *Mercurialis mas & fœmina*, J. B. *vulgaris mas & fœmina*, Park. On the beech near Ryde in the Iſle of Wight, plentifully.

Bugloſs cowſlips, or long leaved ſage of Jeruſalem, *Pulmonaria foliis echii*, Ger. *rubro flore foliis echii*, J. B. Found in a wood by Holbury-houſe in the new foreſt.

Horned rampions, with a round head of flowers, *Rapunculus corniculatus montanus*, Ger. *flore globoſo purpureo*, J. B. Found in the encloſed chalky hilly grounds by Maple-Durham, near Petersfield in Hampſhire.

This county, excluſive of the Iſle of Wight, is divided into thirty-nine hundreds, in which are contained one city, and twenty market towns. It lies in the province of Canterbury, and the dioceſe of Wincheſter, and contains 253 pariſhes. It alſo ſends twenty-ſix members to parliament, including thoſe ſent by the Iſle of Wight, namely, two knights of the ſhire for the county, and two burgeſſes for each of the following towns, Southampton, Portſmouth, Newport in the Iſle of Wight, Yarmouth in the ſame iſland, Newton alſo in the ſame iſland, Lymington or Lemington, Chriſtchurch, Andover, Whitchurch, Petersfield, and Stockbridge.

We ſhall enter this county by the London road to Portſmouth, where the firſt place of any conſequence is PETERSFIELD, which is ſituated eighteen miles to the northward of Portſmouth, and fifty-five ſouth-weſt of London: it is a pretty large town incorporated by queen Elizabeth, and governed by a mayor and commonalty; yet the town has given up all its privileges to the family of the Hamborrows, who are lords of the manor, and at whoſe court the mayor is now annually

nually chosen. The town is populous and pretty well built, and being a great thoroughfare, is well supplied with inns. It sends two members to parliament, who are elected by the freeholders within and without the borough. It has one church, which is only a chapel of ease, and the market is on Saturdays. It has also two fairs, which are held on the 10th of July, and the 11th of December, for sheep and horses. The hills between this town and Southwick, a village near Fareham, are called Portsdown, and the roads over them are very dirty in wet weather.

From Petersfield a road extends about eight miles south to HAVANT, a village that was formerly a market town, and has still two fairs, one on the 22d of June, and the other on the 17th of October, for toys.

To the southward of Havant and the east of Portsmouth lie HALING and THORNEY, two small islands, each of which has a parish church; and the inhabitants are employed at several places along the shore in making salt.

About fourteen miles to the south-west of Petersfield is PORTSMOUTH, which receives its name from its situation at the port or mouth of a gulph, which here runs within the land, and at high tide surrounds a small tract of country, about fourteen miles in circumference, called Portsea island. It is seated twenty-two miles south-east of Winchester, and seventy-three south-west of London. Portsmouth may be termed the key of England, and indeed is the only regular fortification in this kingdom. These works were begun by Edward the Fourth, and augmented by Henry the Seventh and Eighth: queen Elizabeth was at such expence in improving them, that nothing was thought wanting to render them compleat; but king Charles the Second, added to their

their ſtrength, extent and magnificence, and rendered this one of the principal harbours in England for laying up the royal navy. He alſo cauſed it to be furniſhed with wet and dry docks, ſtore-houſes, rope-yards, and every thing neceſſary for building, repairing, rigging, arming, victualling, and completely fitting for ſea, ſhips of war of all rates. The fortifications and accommodations of this place, for the ſea ſervice, have ſince been enlarged and improved. Here are immenſe quantities of cables, maſts, great guns, bullets, bombs, carcaſſes, mortars, and granadoes of all ſorts and ſizes. The rope-houſe, which is 170 feet long, is one continued room. The largeſt cables are made here, and require a hundred men to work one of them, and the labour is ſo extremely hard, that they are employed but four hours in a day.

Here all our fleets of force, and all ſquadrons appointed as convoys to our trade homeward or outward bound, conſtantly rendezvous, the harbour being ſo ſpacious and ſecure, that a thouſand ſail may ride in perfect ſafety. The mouth of this harbour, which is ſcarce ſo broad as the river Thames at Weſtminſter, is on the Portſmouth ſide defended by a fort, called South-ſea Caſtle, erected by king Henry the Eighth, and ſituated about a mile and a half ſouth of the town. This caſtle is defended by a good counterſcarp, a double moat, ravelins and double palliſadoes, beſides an advanced work to cover the place: but in Auguſt 1759, part of this fort was accidentally blown up, and the reſt greatly damaged. On the Goſport ſide, the mouth of the harbour is defended by four forts, and a platform of above twenty great guns level with the water. On the land ſide, the town is fortified by works lately raiſed about the docks and yards, and the government has, within theſe few

few years, purchaſed more ground for additional works.

The harbour is ſo ſecure from winds, that they cannot blow from any part of the compaſs to the detriment of the ſhips at anchor in it; and is ſo deep, that a firſt rate man of war can ride at the loweſt ebb, without touching the ground; beſides, there is a boom or chain at its entrance, which in caſe of danger, may be raiſed and faſtened immediately on both ſides, ſo as to ſtop any naval force; and if attacked by ſea, the enemies ſhips muſt come directly under South-ſea caſtle, and afterwards be expoſed to a long train of canon from the town and block-houſe, which muſt rake them fore and aft for a mile together, before they reach the mouth of the haven.

One great convenience, with reſpect to the harbour of Portſmouth, is the ſafe and ſpacious road of Spithead, which lies between Hampſhire and the Iſle of Wight, and is about twenty miles in length, and in ſome places three in breadth. It is defended from all winds that blow from the weſt to the ſouth-eaſt, by the high lands of the Iſle of Wight, and from the winds of the oppoſite quarter, by the main land of Hampſhire, the town of Portſmouth fronting the middle of the road. The bottom is perfectly ſound and good, and the flux and reflux of the ſea repairs all the injuries done by the anchors. The limits of this road are exactly diſtinguiſhed by buoys properly placed.

Within the yard are handſome dwelling-houſes, with all proper accommodations for a commiſſioner of the navy, and all the ſubordinate officers and maſter workmen, neceſſary for the conſtant ſervice of the navy day and night; and the contents of the yards and ſtorehouſes are laid up in ſuch exact order, that the workmen can readily find

find any implement they want, even in the dark. The quantities of all kinds of military and naval ſtores laid up here are immenſe; and the number of men continually employed in the yard is never leſs than a thouſand. The docks and yards ſeem a diſtinct town, and form a kind of marine corporation within themſelves.

However, the town being nearly on a level with the ſea, is full of ditches, which it was found neceſſary to cut as drains, and the inhabitants are very liable to agues. The ſtreets are moſt commonly very dirty; and both the inns and taverns perpetually crowded with ſeamen and ſoldiers. The church is a large and handſome ſtructure, and has a bell at the top of the tower, which is rung to give an account of the number of ſhips that enter the port; and from a watch-houſe on the top of the ſteeple, is a fine proſpect of all the ſhips in the harbour, as well as thoſe at Spithead. The deputy governor has a very handſome houſe, with a neat chapel, and there a fine new quay for laying up the canon. Portſmouth is, however, in great want of freſh water; and tho' the adjacent country abounds with all ſorts of proviſions, yet, from the very great conſumption of them in this town, they are very dear, as are alſo lodging and firing.

As the town is walled round, and will not admit of any enlargement, from the increaſe of buſineſs, and the great concourſe of people thither, a kind of ſuburb has been built on the heathy ground adjoining, which is like to exceed the town itſelf, the ſituation being more pleaſant and healthy, and the inhabitants not being ſubject to the laws of the garriſon, nor incumbered with the duties and ſervices of the corporation. This ſuburb has a church, a chapel, and ſeveral meeting-houſes.

At

At Portſmouth Peter de Rupibus founded an hoſpital, called God's houſe, dedicated to St. John the Baptiſt and St. Nicholas, which was valued at the diſſolution at 33 l. 19 s. 5 d. per annum.

Portſmouth was laſt incorporated by king Charles the Firſt, and is governed by a mayor, aldermen, a recorder, bailiffs, and common-council. It ſends two members to parliament, and has two markets held on Thurſdays and Saturdays, as alſo a fair on the 10th of July, for ſhoemakers, hatters, milliners, mercers, cutlers, cabinet-makers, linen and woollen drapers, ſilverſmiths, ready made cloaths, and furniture for beds. This fair laſts fourteen days.

At this place the empreſs Maud landed, when ſhe came to contend for the crown with king Stephen. In the reign of Richard the Second, Portſmouth was burnt by the French, but it recovered ſo much in ſix years time, that the inhabitants fitted out a fleet, which beat the French at ſea, as they were returning to inſult the coaſt a ſecond time, and then ſteering to France, entered the river Seine, ſunk ſeveral ſhips, and brought off a great booty. At firſt the town was fortified with a timber wall, lined with earth, and there was a high mount at the north-eaſt, near the gate; but king Edward the Fourth built two forts of free-ſtone at the entrance of the harbour, and king Henry the Seventh made it a garriſon. On the 3d of July, 1760, a dreadful fire broke out at twelve in the morning, in the dock-yard, in a fine pile of building, in the lower part of which were pitch, tar, oil and turpentine; in the upper, canvaſs, ſails, and cables: the next ſtorehouſe was the ſpinning-houſe, and above it hemp; the next where the bell hung was a long lane piled up with decayed ſtores: the next to that were the rope-makers laying-walk, and tarring-

tarring-walk, over which were ſails, canvaſs, and ropes. The flames raged with ſuch fury, that all theſe buildings were deſtroyed. It rained very hard all that night, and it is thought the ſtores caught fire by the lightening, which was very terrible, the atmoſphere appearing all on a blaze. In the warehouſes that were conſumed, had been depoſited 1050 tons of hemp, 500 tons of cordage, and about 700 ſails, beſides many hundred barrels of tar and oil; yet with all this devaſtation, ſuch was the diligence exerted, and ſuch the quantity of ſtores at Chatham and in other magazines, that the loſs was ſoon ſupplied without much affecting our public concerns, tho' in the midſt of a heavy, glorious, and expenſive war.

GOSPORT is ſituated on the other ſide of the mouth of the harbour, oppoſite to Portſmouth, at the diſtance of 74 miles from London; but tho' on a different ſide of the harbour, and in a different pariſh, is generally conſidered as a part of Portſmouth, it being with reſpect to that town what Southwark is to London, except their not being united by a bridge; boats are, however, continually paſſing from one to the other. Goſport is a town of conſiderable extent, and has a great trade. It is chiefly inhabited by the ſailors and their wives, and the warrant officers; travellors alſo generally chooſe to lodge here, becauſe every thing is conſiderably cheaper, and more convenient, than at Portſmouth. Here is a free-ſchool, and a noble hoſpital for the cure of the ſick and wounded ſailors, in the ſervice of the navy. It has a market on Thurſdays, and two fairs, held on the 4th of May, and the 10th of October, for toys.

PORTCHESTER is a village five miles ſouth-weſt of Portſmouth, and, according to tradition, is

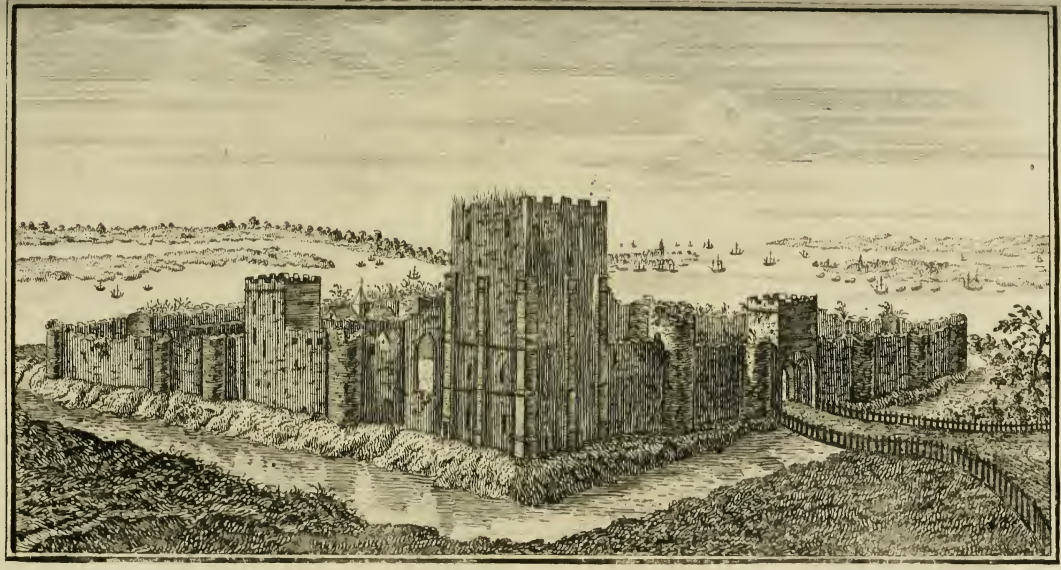
is the place where Veſpaſian, the Roman emperor, firſt landed in England. Here was formerly a large harbour, defended by a caſtle, but the ſea gradually retiring from it, the inhabitants removed from hence to Portſea. The walls of Porcheſter caſtle are ſtill ſtanding, and ſhew it has been a ſtrong place, very fit for the purpoſe for which it was deſigned. The body of the caſtle is in the middle; and at a ſmall diſtance on each ſide are two round towers, and a little farther two ſquare ones, one of which hath a gateway. Of theſe we have given a plate. Theſe towers have a fine view of the Iſle of Wight, Portſmouth, and Goſport.

King Henry the Firſt founded at Portcheſter a priory of canons of the order of St. Auguſtine, which appears to have been ſoon after removed to Southweek, where it continued till the diſſolution of religious houſes, when it was valued at 257 l. 4 s. 4d. a year.

Between two and three miles north-weſt of Portcheſter is FAREHAM, a ſmall and pleaſant town, ſixty-five miles weſt by ſouth of London, but is of little note. It has a market on Wedneſdays, and a fair on the 29th of July, for toys.

About ſix miles to the north of Fareham is BISHOPS WALTHAM, by a corrupt abbreviation BUSH WALTHAM, its receiving the name of biſhop from its having formerly a palace of the biſhop of Wincheſter. It has a charity-ſchool, but neither market nor fair.

From hence, proceeding two miles weſt in the road to Southampton, you come to TITCHFIELD, a village eight miles ſouth-eaſt of Southampton, where, in the beginning of the thirteenth century, was a monaſtery founded by Peter de Rupibus, biſhop of the dioceſe. He endowed it with ſeveral lands and revenues, and king Henry the Third granted the monks ſome extraordinary privileges,



The North West View of Porchester Castle, *in* Hampshire

vileges. It was valued at the diſſolution at 250 l. a year by Dugdale; but by Speed, at 280 l. Titchfield has four fairs, viz. on the Saturday fortnight before Lady-day, May 14, for toys; on September 25, for hiring ſervants, and on Saturday fortnight before St. Thomas's day, for toys.

SOUTHAMPTON was anciently called Hantun, from its being ſeated on a bay, in ancient times named Triſanton, or the bay of Anton, now called Southampton-water; but at length it took the name of South-Hanton, or Hampton, to diſtinguiſh it from Hampton and Northampton. It is ſituated between the rivers Teſte and Itching, twenty-five miles ſouth-eaſt of Saliſbury, twelve ſouth of Wincheſter, and ſeventy-eight weſt by ſouth of London. This is the county town of Hampſhire. It was incorporated by king Henry the Second and king John; after which king Henry the Sixth made it a county of itſelf, which renders it independant of the lord lieutenant of the county. By its laſt charter, granted by king Charles the Firſt, the corporation conſiſts of a mayor, a recorder, a ſheriff, and two bailiffs; all thoſe who have ſerved any of the foregoing offices conſtitute the common-council, which conſequently is unlimited; but the corporation have a power of chuſing burgeſſes, who, though not members of the common-council, are yet of the corporation, and have votes. There are eleven juſtices of the peace, viz. the mayor for the time being, the biſhop of Wincheſter, the recorder, the laſt mayor, five aldermen, and two burgeſſes. All who have paſſed the chair are aldermen. The corporation have ſeveral officers, as a town clerk; four ſerjeants-at mace; a town cryer, &c. The mayor and bailiffs have a court for the recovery of ſmall debts. In the Guild-hall

all cauſes are tried; and here the quarter ſeſſions are held. The mayor is admiral of the liberties, from South-ſea Caſtle near Portſmouth to Hurſt Caſtle, which is ſeated on a neck of land that runs ſo far into the ſea, as to form the ſhorteſt paſſage to the Iſle of Wight.

It is generally agreed, that this town was an ancient colony of the Romans, called Clauſentum, or rather the old town which ſtood more eaſtward, upon the banks of the river Itching. This town was greatly harraſſed by the Danes, who took it in the year 980, and in the reign of king Edward the Firſt it was plundered and burnt to the ground by the French, but was ſoon rebuilt in a more convenient ſituation, fortified with battlements and watch towers; and in a little time becoming populous, king Richard the Second built a ſtrong caſtle on a high mount for the defence of the harbour. It is ſaid, that by the privileges anciently granted to this place, all the Canary wine brought to England was obliged to be firſt landed here, which greatly enriched the inhabitants; but the London merchants ſuffering great inconvenience from the delay this occaſioned, purchaſed this privilege of the corporation, and had their wines brought directly to London.

This town is at preſent encompaſſed by a ſtrong wall built with very large ſtones, full of thoſe little white ſhells, like honeycombs, that grow on the back of oyſters. Theſe ſtones are extremely hard, and ſeem to have been gathered near the beach of the ſea, which encompaſſes near one half of the town, and is ſo deep, that ſhips of 500 tons burthen have been frequently built there. Theſe walls have many lunettes and towers; and in ſome places is a double ditch. To defend that part of the town encompaſſed by the ſea from the force of the waves, a ſtrong bank is built of what

is

is called ſea-ore, a weed compoſed of long, ſlender, and ſtrong filaments, ſomewhat reſembling undreſſed hemp: it is very tough and durable, on which account it is thought to be a better defence than a wall of ſtone, or even a natural cliff; but this laſt muſt appear highly improbable. At the ſouth-eaſt corner near the quay is a fort mounted with guns, called the tower, erected by Henry the Eighth in 1542.

The principal ſtreet is one of the broadeſt in England, and near three quarters of a mile long, well paved on both ſides, and ending in a very fine quay. The chief ornaments of the town are its churches, of which there are ſix, beſides a French church, and ſeveral meeting-houſes. Here is an hoſpital, called God's houſe. St. John's hoſpital, which has a maſter and ſix boys, who are inſtructed in the woollen manufacture; a free-ſchool, founded by king Edward the Sixth; and in 1760, a ſchool was opened for educating twenty boys for the ſea, in purſuance of the will of Richard Taunton, Eſq; late alderman of Southampton. The inhabitants trade to Portugal, Newfoundland, Jerſey, and Guernſey. About the year 1754, the trade of this place was ſo much decayed, that the magiſtrates, for its encouragement and revival, gave up for the ſpace of twenty-one years all their petty cuſtoms on goods imported and exported to or from Africa and America. The reſort of the nobility and gentry here, during the ſummer months, for the advantage of ſea-bathing, has been the occaſion of much improvement in the town. The inhabitants vie with each other in fitting up their houſes in the neateſt and genteeleſt manner to accommodate the company. The citizens have been no leſs attentive to ſupply the company with faſhionable a-

muſements during the ſeaſon. In 1766, a play-houſe was built on the following terms: a number of gentlemen ſubſcribed ten guineas each, for which they were entitled to thirty nights, for three ſeaſons, to a ſeat in either of the boxes; or by the addition of a ſhilling to the ſubſcription ticket, to two places in the pit. The theatre is neat and compact, and formed on the plan of that at Covent-garden. The old aſſembly-room in High-ſtreet being found to be ſmall and inconvenient, the long-room was built in 1761, and propoſed as a place to walk in, while others were bathing. But the company continuing to encreaſe during the following ſeaſons, a very elegant room was added, which extends along the ſhore, and commands delightful views of the water, and the oppoſite ſhore, as well as of the veſſels, both coming up and going down. The pier-glaſſes are very valuable the muſic diſpoſed in the center of the room, and the whole elegantly finiſhed.

In a word, Southampton is beautifully ſituated, ſo as to command a variety of the moſt agreeable entertainments both by land and water. The neighbouring country is well improved, and adorned with many ſeats and pleaſant towns. The weekly markets are on Tueſdays, Thurſdays, and Saturdays. Beſides which it has four fairs, which are but ſmall; the principal of theſe are on the 25th of April, and on Trinity-Monday. This laſt is held near the chapel mill, about half a mile from the town, and was probably much more conſiderable, than it is at preſent, as a pie-powder-court is conſtantly held in it, to determine diſputes, and puniſh offenders.

It was here that king Canute ridiculed his flattering courtiers, by ſitting crowned and in his royal robes, on the bank of the river, and commanding the tide not to approach his footſtool; but

but the ſea, deaf to his commands, and regardleſs of his threats, continued its wonted courſe, and wetting his majeſty's feet and robes, he ſtarted up, and upbraided thoſe ſycophants with the groſſneſs of their flattery, in pretending that all nature obeyed him, adding, let this convince you, and all the world, that the power of the greateſt monarch is poor and weak, and that none is truly worthy of the title of King, but he whoſe Will being an Eternal Law, the Heavens, the Earth and Sea obey.

It will be proper to obſerve, with reſpect to the eccleſiaſtical antiquities of this town, that there was an hoſpital here for lepers before the year 1179, which was valued at the diſſolution at 16l. 16 s. 2d. a year. In the reign of Henry the Third, two brothers, who were merchants, one named Gervaſius, and the other Protaſius, who lived in the ſouth-eaſt corner of the town, converted their dwelling-houſe into an hoſpital for poor people, and endowed it with ſome lands, to which ſeveral benefactions were afterwards added. Its chapel is dedicated to St. Julian, on which account it is often called the hoſpital of St. Julian, but is generally termed God's houſe. The patronage and maſterſhip was given by king Edward the Third, by the perſuaſions of Philippa his queen, to the provoſt and fellows of Queen's college in Oxford, which ſhe had founded, and in their poſſeſſion it continues to this day. In the ſouth-eaſt part of the town, near the walls, was a houſe or college of grey friars, who ſettled here in the year 1240.

On a promontory on the weſt ſide of the mouth of that arm of the ſea called Southampton-water is COLSHOT Caſtle, which was built by Henry the Eighth, to defend that town. This, though built chiefly for defence, is a handſome fortreſs,

with a moat on the ſide next the land, over which is a draw-bridge. A garriſon is conſtantly kept here, commanded by the governor of the caſtle.

At HAMBLE, a village near Southampton, was a priory of Ciſtercian monks, dedicated to St. Andrew, which became a cell to the abbey of Tirone in France, and was at length given to New college in Oxford.

At the hamlet of St. MARY's, which is at a ſmall diſtance to the north-eaſt of Southampton, ſtood the old Roman town, called Clauſentum, which in the ancient Britiſh tongue ſignifies the port of Entum. The ruins of this town may be traced on one ſide as far as the haven, and on the other beyond the river Itching; and the trenches of a caſtle, half a mile in compaſs, are ſtill viſible in St. Mary's field. This is ſuppoſed to have been one of thoſe forts, which the Romans frequently erected in Britain to keep out the Saxons.

Three miles to the eaſt of Southampton is NETLEY, where are the ruins of an abbey of the order of the Ciſtercians, founded by Henry the Third, in the year 1239, and dedicated to St. Mary and St. Edward: other endowments were beſtowed on it by John de Warenna, earl of Surry, in the year 1242. At the diſſolution it had an abbot and twelve monks, whoſe revenues were valued at 100 l. 12 s. 8 d. a year. The rooms and walls now ſtanding ſhew that it was once a handſome edifice. Very large ivy grows out of this abbey and church. This laſt ſeems to have been built on the ſame model with Rumſey church.

Six miles north-weſt of Southampton is RUMSEY, which is ſituated on the road from Southampton to Saliſbury, 17 miles ſouth-eaſt of the laſt mentioned city, and 78 weſt by ſouth of London. Dr. Stukeley maintains, that it was a Roman town, and that its name is a corruption of Armi-

nis.

nis. Its ſituation is extremely pleaſant, it being encompaſſed by an agreeable mixture of woods, corn-fields, meadows and paſtures. The town is pretty large, and is governed by a mayor, a recorder, ſix aldermen and twelve burgeſſes. The church is a noble pile, arched with ſtone, and in the form of a croſs, with ſemicircular chapels in the upper angles. This town is chiefly inhabited by clothiers, and has a conſiderable manufacture of ſhalloons, called ratinets, in which above ſix hundred hands are employed. It has a good market on Saturdays, and three fairs, held on Eaſter-monday, Auguſt 26, and November 8, for horſes, cattle, cheeſe and hogs.

King Edgar the Elder built here a monaſtery, which was changed by king Edgar his grandſon into a nunnery, under the government of the abbeſs Merwenna. It was dedicated to the Virgin Mary, and St. Elfleda, who was ſome time a nun and abbeſs here. The laſt mentioned prince confirmed and enlarged the endowments of his grandfather, which were farther encreaſed and confirmed by Henry the Third, and Edward the Firſt. It was valued at the diſſolution by Dugdale at 393 l. a year; but by Speed at 528 l.

Sir William Petty, a man of great capacity and uncommon ingenuity in the ſeventeenth century, was the ſon of Anthony Petty, a clothier, and was born at this town on the 16th of May, 1623. While he was a boy, he took great delight in converſing with artificers, as ſmiths, carpenters, joiners, &c. and imitating their ſeveral trades, which he performed very dexterouſly at twelve years of age. He then went to ſchool; and, according to his own account, at the age of fifteen, was maſter of the Latin, Greek, and French tongues, together with arithmetic, and thoſe parts of the mathematics which relate to navigation.

Soon after he repaired to the univerſity of Caen in Normandy; and thence to Paris, where he ſtudied anatomy, and read Veſalius under Mr. Hobbes, who then reſided in that city. Upon his return to England, he obtained a commiſſion in the royal navy. In 1643, when the war between the king and the parliament grew hot, he retired into France and the Netherlands; and having, for the ſpace of three years proſecuted his ſtudies, eſpecially that of phyſic, at Utrecht, Leyden, Amſterdam, and Paris, he returned to his native country. In 1647, a patent was granted him for teaching the art of double writing for 17 years. Being naturally a man of a peaceable temper, and bent, at the ſame time, upon puſhing his fortune, he quietly ſubmitted to the ruling powers; and going to Oxford in 1648, he there taught anatomy and chemiſtry, and was created doctor of phyſic. In 1650 he was made profeſſor of anatomy in that univerſity, and member of the college of phyſicians in London. The ſame year he was appointed phyſician to the army in Ireland; and going over to that kingdom, he reſided there till 1659, and acquired an immenſe fortune. After the reſtoration of king Charles the Second, he was introduced to that prince, who conferred upon him the honour of knighthood. About the year 1663, he conſtructed a double-bottomed ſhip for ſailing againſt wind and tide; which, tho' it did not fully anſwer the purpoſe, was yet allowed to be a moſt ingenious invention. A model of this ſhip is ſtill preſerved in the repoſitory of the royal ſociety. He died at London of a gangrene in his foot, December the 16th, 1687, in the ſixty-fifth year of his age. His fortune is ſaid, at the time of his death, to have amounted to 15,000 l. per annum. Of all his works, his *Political Arithmetic* is the beſt known.

Three

Three miles ſouth-weſt of Rumſey, and eight to the weſtward of Southampton is POULTON's, the ſeat of Hans Stanley, Eſq; which is well worth viſiting. The lawns, which are beautiful and extenſive, are bounded on all ſides by foreſt trees and exotics. Through the midſt of the lawn winds a ſerpentine river, well ſtocked with the ſcarceſt and moſt curious fiſh.

We ſhall now return to Southampton, where quitting the town, and proceeding in the way to Wincheſter, you come to BELLEVUE, the fine ſeat of Nathaniel André, Eſq; which ſtands in a moſt happy ſituation: from the terrace, and eſpecially from the windows, the eye takes in a very grand proſpect: the view of the river being obſtructed by its winding courſe, Southampton water appears like a ſpacious baſon: the motion of the veſſels on the water, the contraſt formed by the parts improved, and thoſe uncultivated, with the intervening ſhades, and the diſtant hills, exhibit a landſcape truly pictureſque.

About half a mile farther up the ſame road you come to PADWELL, more generally known by the name of BEVIS' MOUNT, the ſeat of Sir John Mordaunt, to which you proceed through a regular row of elms on each ſide. It lies on the bank of the Itching, where was originally a vaſt pile of earth, of a conical form, ſuppoſed to have been an ancient fortification, thrown up by the Saxons, under the command of Bevis, to oppoſe the paſſage of the Danes over the river, who lay encamped on the other ſide. The river is not very large, but the tide forms a bay juſt under the mount, and this laſt being contiguous to an eſtate belonging to the late earl of Peterborough, his lordſhip purchaſed it, and converted it into a kind of wilderneſs, thro' which are various winding gravel-walks, which are extremely romantic and

agreeable. On the top of a little mount is an elegant ſummer-houſe, under which is an ice-houſe. The whole is converted into gardens, which are kept in excellent order, and adorned throughout with ſtatues.

At a ſmall diſtance was the ancient priory of St. Dennis, formerly belonging to the canons of St. Auſtin. It was founded and endowed by Henry the Firſt, and afterwards Henry the Second, king Stephen, Richard the Firſt, and many private perſons, beſtowed lands, tenements, and the advowſon of churches on it. At the ſuppreſſion it was valued at 80l. 11s. 6d. a year. Where this priory formerly ſtood is now a farm-houſe, at which may be ſeen many ſtone coffins entire, which are uſed for troughs and other uſes.

The city of WINCHESTER is ſeated twenty-nine miles north-weſt of Chicheſter, twelve north of Southampton, twenty eaſt of Saliſbury, and ſixty-ſeven weſt by ſouth of London. It is ſaid to have been the metropolis of the Britiſh Belgæ, and is generally allowed to be the Vente Belgarum of the Romans. It was called by the Saxons Wintonceaſter, from the Britiſh name Gwent-Caer, compounded of Gwen or Gwin, white, and Caer a city; a name it probably acquired from its ſituation among hills of chalk or whitiſh clay. It is ſeated on the weſtern declivity and bottom of a hill, the river Itching running below on the eaſt, and many branches of it paſſing thro' the middle of the city. It is about a mile and a half in compaſs, and almoſt ſurrounded with a wall built with flint, having ſix gates, with ſuburbs to each. In the higher part of the city are the remains of a caſtle, which overlooks the whole; in a part of this ſtructure is the town-hall, where the aſſizes are kept, and which is ſupported upon marble pillars.

The

The buildings of this city are in general but mean; the ſtreets are, however, broad and clean, and there is a great deal of void ground within the walls, ſome part of which is laid into gardens, that are ſupplied with water from little canals on each ſide of the high ſtreet. In this ſtreet is a Guild-hall, which not many years ago was rebuilt, and the front adorned with a ſtatue of queen Anne. In this hall is held a court of record every Friday and Saturday. At the eaſt gate of the city is an hoſpital dedicated to St. John, which is ſtill ſtanding; and in the hall of this hoſpital, the mayor and bailiffs have their public entertainments. At one end of the room is the picture of king Charles the Second, by Sir Peter Lely, and at the other, a large table of all the mayors and bailiffs of Wincheſter from the year 1184; and alſo tables of benefactions to this city, during the reigns of the Saxon kings, and from Henry the Second to Charles the Second. The city is at preſent governed, according to a charter of queen Elizabeth, by a mayor, a high-ſteward, a recorder, an unlimited number of aldermen, out of whom ſix juſtices are choſen, two coroners, two bailiffs, twenty-four common-councilmen, a town-clerk, four conſtables, and four ſerjeants at mace.

The epiſcopal palace was built in this city by biſhop Blois in the time of king Stephen. It was almoſt encompaſſed by the river Itching, and was fortified with turrets. This ſtructure was demoliſhed by the parliament army in the reign of king Charles the Firſt, but was rebuilt by biſhop Morley in the reign of Charles the Second, and was fitted up by Dr. Trelawney, the ſucceeding biſhop. The ſee of Wincheſter, which is one of the richeſt in the kingdom, was originally founded by Kinegulfe, one of the kings of the Mercians, whoſe

whoſe ſon in the year 663 tranſlated the ſee of Dorcheſter hither; and tho' the dioceſe of Sherborn was afterwards taken out of it by king Ina, yet it became ſo rich, that when Edward the Third offered to prefer his favourite Edendon, who was then biſhop, to the ſee of Canterbury, he refuſed it, ſaying, that "tho' Canterbury was "the higheſt rack, Wincheſter was the better "manger." William of Wickham obtained ſome privileges and immunities for this ſee, while he was biſhop of it in the reign of Edward the Third; ſuch as that the biſhops of Wincheſter ſhould be chancellors to the archbiſhops of Canterbury, and prelates of the moſt noble order of the garter.

This city had formerly thirty-two pariſh churches, of which only ſix are now remaining. The cathedral, which is a large and venerable ſtructure, was begun by biſhop Walkalin, about the year 1070, and finiſhed by William of Wickham, whoſe ſtatue is placed in a niche over the great window oppoſite the choir. Inſtead of a ſteeple, this church has only a ſhort tower, with a flat covering, as if the top had fallen down, and it had been covered in haſte, to keep out the rain. This cathedral is 545 feet in length from eaſt to weſt, including our lady's chapel, at the eaſt end, which is fifty-four feet long, and the breadth of the body and croſs iſles eighty-ſeven feet. The choir is 136 feet long, and forty broad: the great croſs iſle is about 186 feet in length, and the tower in the middle is 150 feet high: the nave or weſtern body of the church is above 300 feet in length, and is reckoned the moſt ſpacious in England. The roof of the choir is adorned with the arms of the Saxon and Norman kings. The font, which was erected in the time of the Saxons, is of black marble, and of a ſquare figure, ſupported

ported by a plain ſtone pedeſtal, but the ſides are adorned with ſculptures in baſſo relievo, repreſenting the miracles of ſome ſaint belonging to this church. The aſcent to the choir is by a noble flight of eight ſteps, the whole breadth of the middle iſle, and on the top of them are two fine ſtatues of copper of James the Firſt, and Charles the Firſt. The ſcreen, which was deſigned by Inigo Jones, is a fine piece of architecture of the Compoſite order; but his thus joining the Roman to the Gothic ſtyle, is juſtly conſidered as a ſolyciſm in architecture; but this is not the only impropriety of that kind, for the biſhop's throne, which was the gift of biſhop Trelawney, is adorned with a pediment, on which is a mitre, and the arms of the ſee, ſupported by fluted columns of the Corinthian order. The ſtalls of the dean and prebendaries are ornamented with gilt ſpirework, before which an eagle ſtands on a braſs pedeſtal with its wings expanded. The aſcent to the altar is of ſteps of marble, and the pavement is curiouſly inlaid with marble of different colours, forming a variety of figures. The altar-piece, which is the nobleſt in England, was ſet up by biſhop Morley, and conſiſts of a lofty canopy projecting over the communion table, like a curtain, with gilt feſtoons hanging down from it, and other ornaments. The rails of the altar are neat, and on each ſide are ſtone vaſes, with flames of gold riſing to the roof of the church. The great eaſt window is remarkable for its fine painted glaſs, repreſenting the ſaints and biſhops of this church; it is ſtill entire, as is alſo the weſt window, which is of painted glaſs, tho' inferior to the other. In this ſtructure, ſeveral of our Saxon kings were interred, whoſe bones were collected by biſhop Fox, and depoſited in ſix gilded coffins, which he cauſed to be placed on a wall on the ſouth

south side of the choir. Here is also the marble coffin of William Rufus, which being opened by the soldiers, in the civil wars under king Charles the First, they found a gold ring, set with a ruby, on his thumb: a neat chapel was built by bishop Langton, on the south side of our lady's chapel, in the middle of which he lies interred, under a stately marble tomb. Bishop Fox, who was interred on the south side of the high altar, has also a fine monument erected over him. Here are likewise several other magnificent tombs, among which is that of William of Wickham, which is of white marble richly gilt, and here he himself is represented adorned with the ensigns of the order of the garter, of which he was the first prelate, joined with his episcopal robes painted in their proper colours; this was erected by himself in the body of the church, about thirteen years before his death. Here is also a monument of the earl of Portland, lord high treasurer of England, in the reign of king Charles the First, upon which is placed a copper statue of the earl in armour, with his head raised on three cushions of the same metal; and on the south side of the nave is a marble statue of Sir John Cloberry.

The clergy of this city have pleasant and elegant lodgings in the close belonging to the cathedral; particularly the deanery is a very handsome structure, with large and pleasant gardens, but they are subject to be overflowed by the river, which runs through the middle of them.

At a small distance from the bishop's palace is the college of St. Mary, usually called Winchester College, the foundation of which was laid in 1387, by William of Wickham, and it was finished in the year 1393. By his charter he appointed a custos or warden, seventy scholars students in grammar, ten perpetual chaplains, now called fellows,

fellows, three other chaplains, three clerks, a ſchool maſter, an uſher, an organiſt, and ſixteen choriſters, who with their tenants were for ever freed from all taxes. The warden, maſters and fellows, have a conſiderable allowance, and handſome apartments joining to the college, which conſiſts of two large courts, in which are the ſchools, a chapel, and lodgings for the ſcholars. The windows of the chapel are adorned with excellent paintings, and in the middle of the cloyſters is a library. Over the door of the ſchool is a fine ſtatue of the founder, made by Mr. Cibber. In ſhort, the building is of ſtone, and well contrived to prevent any accident by fire. Many learned and great men have been educated in this ſchool, where, after a certain time, the ſcholars have exhibitions to ſtudy in the New college at Oxford, founded by the ſame benefactor.

On the weſt ſide of the city, on an eminence commanding the town, king Charles the Second employed Sir Chriſtopher Wren in building a royal palace; but when the deſign was nearly completed, the king dying, it was ſuffered to lie neglected. The ſouth ſide extends 216 feet, and the weſt 326; and this ſtructure was carried up to the roof, and covered. The principal floor of this edifice is a noble range of apartments twenty feet high, and the whole building contains 160 rooms. It fills up three ſides of a large ſquare, in ſuch a manner, that the opening of the wings commands a view of the city. There are three rows of windows that fill up every ſide of the outer part of the building, beſides the fronton in the middle of each ſide, which is compoſed of four Corinthian pilaſters. A handſome balluſtrade runs quite round the top; but the inſide of the open court is moſt elegant, it being adorned with porticos. A great bridge was to have been built acroſs

acroſs the Foſs in the principal front; and a garden, park, &c. were to have extended behind the back front. His majeſty king George the Firſt made a preſent to the duke of Bolton of the fine columns of Italian marble, that were to have ſupported the roof of the grand ſtair-caſe, and were ſaid to be a preſent from the great duke of Tuſcany. In the late reign the inhabitants were in hopes that this palace would have been finiſhed, and made the reſidence of ſome of the royal family, but theſe hopes were fruſtrated by its being fitted up for the French priſoners taken during the late war.

In this city is a magnificent building, called the Hoſpital of the Holy Croſs, the church of which is in the form of a croſs, and has a large ſquare tower. By the inſtitution of the founder, every traveller who knocks at the door of this houſe in his way, may claim the relief of a manchet of white bread, and a cup of beer, a good quantity of which is daily ſet apart to be given away; and what is left, is diſtributed to other poor, but none of it is kept till the next day. The revenues of this hoſpital were appropriated to the maintenance of a maſter and thirty penſioners, called Fellows or Brothers, for whom were allotted handſome apartments; but the number is now reduced to fourteen, tho' the maſter has an appointment of 800 l. a year. The penſioners wear black gowns, go twice a day to prayers, and have two hot meals a day, except in Lent, when they have bread, butter, cheeſe and beer, and twelve ſhillings in money to buy what other proviſions they chooſe. Theſe penſioners uſed formerly to conſiſt of decayed gentlemen; but of late, they are reduced tradeſmen put in at the maſter's pleaſure. This hoſpital was originally founded by biſhop Henry de Blois, brother to king Stephen, in the year 1132.

In

In the north quarter of the city is part of an old monaſtery ſtill ſtanding, now called Hyde-Houſe, where ſome Roman Catholicks reſide, have a chapel, and behave in ſo unexceptionable a manner, that they are not moleſted.

In this city was lately eſtabliſhed an infirmary by a voluntary ſubſcription, chiefly procured by the reverend doctor Alured Clarke. Here are alſo three charity-ſchools, two of them ſupported by a ſubſcription of 220 l. a year, one of them for fifty boys, and the other for thirty girls, who are all cloathed, and put out apprentices; the third, which is ſupported by the bounty of a ſingle perſon, is for teaching 250 boys, who are neither cloathed nor put out apprentice. Beſides theſe, there is in the cathedral church-yard a college, erected and endowed by biſhop Morley in 1672, for ten widows of clergymen. Here are two markets, which are held on Wedneſdays and Saturdays; and two fairs, one on the firſt Monday in Lent, for bacon, cheeſe, leather and horſes; and the other on the 24th of October, for bullocks, ſheep, horſes and leather.

The plains and downs about this city, which continues with few interſections of rivers or vallies for above fifty miles, renders this country very pleaſant to thoſe who are fond of an open ſituation and extenſive proſpect. Hence, though there is here neither much trade, nor any manufacture worthy of notice, the city and neighbourhood abound with perſons of fortune.

Before we leave this city, it is proper to take notice of its civil and religious antiquities. This city is ſuppoſed by ſome to have been built 900 years before the Chriſtian æra, and to have been the metropolis of the Belgæ, whence it is called Vente Belgarum, both by Ptolemy and Antoninus. In this city, the Romans had afterwards looms to weave

weave cloth for the emperors and their army; and king Athelſtone granted it the privileges of ſix mints for the coinage of money. At a ſmall diſtance from the weſt gate of the cathedral are ſtill the remains of a very thick old wall, in which are ſeveral windows; it is built of ſmall flints, cemented by mortar as hard as ſtone, and is ſuppoſed to have been part of a Roman building.

On St. Catharine's hill near the city are the traces of a camp; on the ſide of the weſt gate was a caſtle, where the Weſt Saxon kings are ſuppoſed to have kept their court; and in the caſtle-hall is ſtill preſerved what is called king Arthur's Round Table, which conſiſts of one piece of wood, and is pretended to be above 1200 years old. Upon it are ſome illegible characters, ſaid to be the names of twenty-four knights, with whom king Arthur uſed to carouſe, and who are called knights of the Round Table. It is, however, moſt probable, that all the exploits of king Arthur in theſe parts are fabulous, and that this table is of a much later date.

A monaſtery is ſaid to have been early founded here by Lucius, a Britiſh king, for monks of the order of St. Mark, which, after ſeveral changes, was entirely deſtroyed by one of the Weſt Saxon kings.

About the end of the ninth century, a nunnery was begun in the eaſt part of this city by king Alfred, or Alſwitha, and finiſhed by their ſon king Edward the Elder. This houſe was new modelled and enlarged by biſhop Ethelwold. The nuns were of the Benedictine order, and the houſe dedicated to the Virgin Mary, and St. Edburg, daughter of king Edward, who is ſaid to have been an abbeſs here. The annual revenue of this abbey in the twenty-ſixth year of Henry the Eighth was 179 l. 7 s. and three years after, when

when it was diſſolved, the king granted penſions to the abbeſs and twenty-one nuns.

A houſe and chapel was alſo founded here by king Alfred, for Grimbald, a learned monk, whom that prince brought out of Flanders, and by his will ordered a religious houſe to be built in the cemetery, on the north ſide of the old minſter or cathedral, over which he intended Grimbald ſhould preſide. This building was erected by king Edward his ſon, and dedicated to the Holy Trinity, the Virgin Mary, and St. Peter; but the religious of this houſe being afterwards diſturbed by the ſinging and bells of the minſter, thought fit, in the year 1110, to remove to a place called Hyde without the walls, on the north part of the city, where king Henry the Firſt founded a ſtately abbey for them, which was ſometimes called the monaſtery of St. Grimbald, and ſometimes of St. Barnabas, though it is ſaid to have been dedicated to St. Peter. Its revenues, at the diſſolution, amounted to 865 l. 18 s. a year.

A houſe or college of Dominicans, or preaching friars, ſtood in the north part of the town, and was firſt placed here by Peter de Rupibus, biſhop of Wincheſter, in the reign of king John, which was granted by king Henry the Eighth, to the warden and fellows of Wickham college. He alſo granted to the ſame college, a houſe of grey friars, on the north ſide of the ſtreet juſt within the eaſt gate.

An hoſpital was founded near one of the gates of the city by biſhop Brinſtan, who died in 935. At a little diſtance, without the king's gate, was an hoſpital for poor people, maintained by the monks of St. Swithin's; and in this city was an hoſpital for nine brethren and ſiſters, before the time of king Edward the Firſt, when it was reckoned to be in the patronage of the biſhop of Win-

Winchester. It was dedicated to St. Mary Magdalen, and valued, at the dissolution, at 42 l. 16 s. a year.

There were also, in this city, a house of Carmelite or white friars, said to have been founded in the year 1278 by Peter, rector of St. Helen's, Winchester. Without the south gate was a house of Augustine friars, built in the reign of Edward the First, and rebuilt after the fifteenth year of Edward the Third. Here was likewise a monastery, said to have been built by one Adam Martin, dedicated to St. James. The prior and brethren of the fraternity of St. Peter, in the church of St. Maurice, and the college of St. Mary Kalender, are mentioned in the twenty-fifth year of king Edward the Third. A warden, and several priests, were settled in the chapel of the Holy Trinity, on the north side of the church-yard of St. Mary's abbey, about the year 1318, by Roger, or John Inkpenne, a citizen of Winchester; and in the meadow of St. Stephen, opposite the gate of the bishop's palace, called Wolvesey, John de Pontoys, bishop of Winchester, built a college, about the year 1300, for a provost, six chaplains, priests, six clerks, and six choristers, to the honour of St. Elizabeth, daughter to the king of Hungary, which, at the dissolution, had an annual revenue of 112 l. 17 s.

At the distance of seven miles west north-west of Winchester is STOCKBRIDGE, which is situated in the road to Weymouth, sixty-nine miles west-north-west of London. This is a borough by prescription, governed by a bailiff, constable, and serjeant at mace; and sends two members to parliament, who are chosen by all the inhabitants that pay to the church and poor. It is a mean place; but has several good inns for the accommodation of travellers. The bailiff, who is generally

generally an innkeeper, or one dependant upon an innkeeper, is the returning officer at elections; for it is ſaid that the innkeeper, in order to have an opportunity of receiving bribes upon theſe occaſions, without being liable to the penalty, has frequently procured one of his own hoſtlers to be elected bailiff, and has himſelf carried the mace before him. The ingenious Sir Richard Steel, who repreſented this borough in the reign of queen Anne, carried his election againſt a powerful oppoſition, by the merry expedient of ſticking a large apple full of guineas, and declaring it ſhould be the prize of that man whoſe wife ſhould firſt be brought to bed after that day nine months: this, we are told, procured him the intereſt of the women, who are ſaid to commemorate Sir Richard's bounty to this day, and once made a ſtrenuous effort to procure a ſtanding order of the corporation, that no man ſhould ever be received as a candidate, who did not offer himſelf upon the ſame terms. This town is ſaid to have the beſt wheel-wrights and carpenters in the county. It has three fairs, held on Holy-Thurſday for ſheep; on the 10th of July, for ſheep and horſes; and on the 7th of October for ſheep.

About thirteen miles to the north-weſt of Wincheſter is ANDOVER, which is ſituated on the London road to Saliſbury, from which it is ſeventeen miles diſtant, and ſixty-ſix from London. It derives its name from its being ſeated on a ſmall river called the Ande, and is pleaſantly ſituated on the ſide of the Downs, which makes it both healthful and agreeable. It is now a large, handſome, populous, and thriving place. Great quantities of malt are made here, but its chief manufacture is ſhalloons. This town is ſaid to have had its firſt charter from king John, but was laſt incorporated by queen Elizabeth, and is governed by

by a bailiff, a ſteward, a recorder, two juſtices, and twenty-two capital burgeſſes, who annually chooſe the bailiff, and the bailiff appoints two ſerjeants at mace to attend him. It ſends two members to parliament, who are elected by the majority of the corporation. Here is an almshouſe for the maintenance of ſix poor men; a free-ſchool founded in 1569, and a charity-ſchool for thirty boys. It has a market on Saturdays, and three fairs, which are held on Mid-Lent Saturday, for cheeſe, horſes and leather; on May 12, for leather and millinary goods; and on the 16th of November, for ſheep, horſes, leather, and cheeſe.

With reſpect to the antiquities of this place, it may be proper juſt to obſerve, that the church of St. Mary, being given by William the Conqueror to the French abbey of St. Florence, at Salmur in Anjou, it became a cell to that monaſtery. It was finally diſſolved by ſtatute in the ſecond year of Henry the Fifth, and granted to Wincheſter college.

At WHERWELL, a village ſeated on the river Teſte near Andover, the widow of king Edgar founded a Benedictine nunnery about the year 986, to atone for having murdered Ethelwold her firſt huſband, in order that ſhe might be queen, and afterwards king Edward her ſon-in-law, that her own ſon Ethelred might aſcend the throne; and in this abbey ſhe is ſaid to have ſpent the latter part of her life in a very penitent manner. It was dedicated to the Holy-Croſs and St. Peter; and at the ſuppreſſion its revenues amounted to 339l. 8 s. 7 d. a year.

Three miles weſt of Andover is held a remarkable fair, at a little village named WEYHILL, held on the 10th of October. This is thought to be the greateſt fair in England for ſheep, and the farmers

farmers flock to it from all parts to buy Dorſetſhire ewes. It is remarkable, that at this fair, in the year 1753, above 200,000 ſheep were brought up to be ſold. It is alſo very conſiderable for leather, hops, and cheeſe; hops being brought thither from Kent and Suſſex; and cheeſe from Glouceſterſhire and Somerſetſhire in great abundance.

About a mile from Andover is a Roman camp, called BEREHILL, and at the diſtance of half a mile is another of greater extent, with double works; and ſome miles to the north is a third, near a village called Egbury. On Quarley-hills, a few miles to the ſouth-weſt of Andover, are the remains of a fort, ſtill larger than any of the others. The works on the ſide are quadruple, and the two outward trenches are farther diſtant from each other than uſual. This is anſwered by another great camp to the eaſt of Quarley-hills, at a place called Dunbury-hill; and at Okebury, about ſix miles from Andover, is a large Roman camp, which appears to be anſwered by another at Frippſbury, at about five miles diſtance.

We ſhall now take the road, which extends eaſtward from Andover to Stains, and ſhall proceed to WHITCHURCH, which lies about ſeven miles north-eaſt of Andover, twenty-three eaſt by north of Saliſbury, and ſixty weſt by ſouth of London; it being ſeated on the weſtern road from the laſt-mentioned city to the Land's end, on the ſkirts of the foreſt of Chute. This is an ancient borough by preſcription, governed by a mayor, annually choſen at a court-leet of the dean and chapter of Wincheſter, who are lords of the manor, and it ſends two members to parliament, who are elected by ſuch of the freeholders as are inhabitants. The chief trade of this town conſiſts in ſhalloons, ſerges, and other articles of the woollen manufacture. It has a market on Fridays,

days, and four fairs, which are held on the 23d of April, the 20th of June, and the 7th of July, for toys, and on the 19th of October, for sheep.

BASINGSTOKE, the next town on the same road, is about eleven miles to the east of Whitchurch, thirty-five miles east by north of Salisbury, and forty-eight west by south of London. This is a large, populous town, governed by a mayor, a recorder, seven aldermen, and seven capital burgesses, with other officers. Besides the parish church, are the ruins of a chapel built by William the first lord Sandys, in the reign of king Henry the Eighth, a free-school, and three charity-schools, in one of which twelve boys are taught, cloathed and maintained by the skinners company in London. The inhabitants drive a great trade in malt, and have a large market on Wednesdays, for all sorts of corn, especially barley. The chief manufacture of the town is druggets and shalloons. Two fairs are kept on the neighbouring Downs on Easter-Tuesday, and September 16, for cattle and toys, and two in the town on Wednesday in Whitsun-Week, for pedlary, and on October 10, for cattle and for hiring servants. In this town king Henry the Third founded an hospital in the year 1261, for the maintenance of aged and helpless priests, in pursuance of the will of Walter de Merton; and after the foundation of Merton college in Oxford, such of the fellows and scholars of that college as should become fit objects of this charity, were to be preferred. It was dedicated to St Mary, and St. John Baptist; and the mastership of it was very early annexed to the wardenship of Merton-college.

Not far from hence is BASINGHOUSE, which was formerly the seat of John marquis of Winchester, who, in the great civil war, turned it into

into a fortreſs for king Charles, and having under him a reſolute band of ſoldiers, held it a long time; but after having reſiſted many attacks, Cromwell at laſt took it by ſtorm, and being exaſperated at the marquis's zeal and reſolution burnt the houſe to the ground. Both this ſtructure and its furniture were extremely magnificent, among that which was conſumed was a bed worth 1400 l. and the plunder was ſo conſiderable, that a private ſoldier got 300 l. to his own ſhare.

John Baſinge, more commonly known by the name of John de Baſingſtoke, was born at Baſingſtoke, and from thence took his ſurname. He laid the foundation of his great learning in the univerſity of Oxford, and, for his farther improvement, went over to Paris, where he reſided ſome years. Not ſatisfied with that, he travelled to Athens, that ancient ſeat of the Muſes, and mother of all polite literature, where he perfected himſelf in the knowledge of the Greek language. At his return to England, he brought over with him ſeveral curious Greek manuſcripts, and introduced the uſe of the Greek numeral figures into this kingdom. As a reward of his merit he was promoted to the archdeaconry of Leiceſter, as alſo to that of London. He died in the year 1252.

Henry Bentinck, ſecond ſon of William, earl of Portland, ſucceeded his father in his title and eſtate, upon the deceaſe of his eldeſt brother, who died in his infancy. In 1710, he was made captain of the firſt troop of horſe guards, in the room of the earl of Albemarle. In 1716, he was created by king George the Firſt marquis of Titchfield, and duke of Portland; and when his majeſty the year following viſited Cambridge, his grace, who attended him, was admitted to the degree of doctor of laws. In 1721, he was ap-

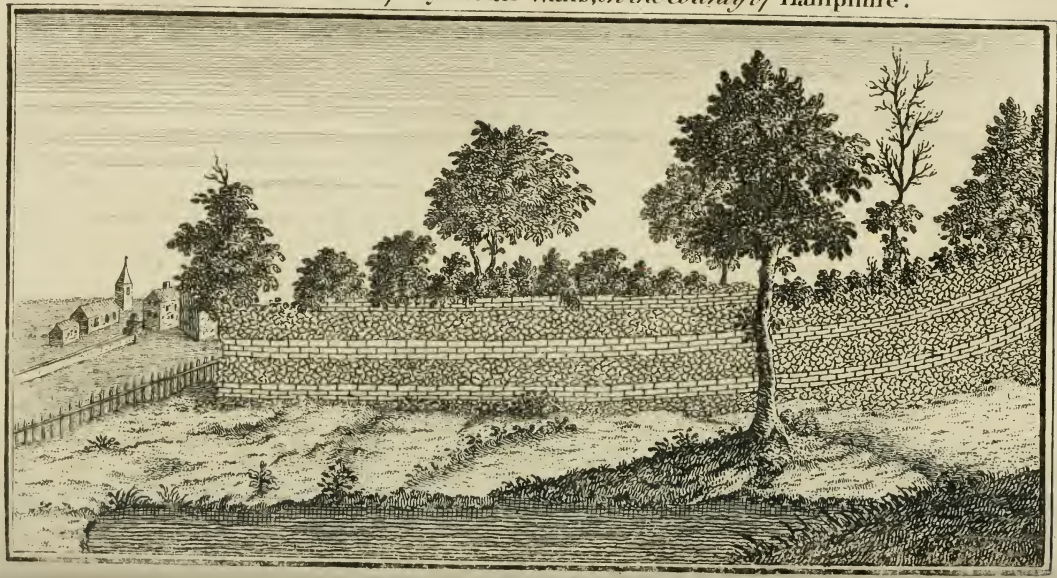
pointed captain general, and governor of the iſland of Jamaica, where he died of a fever, univerſally lamented, on the 4th day of July, 1726, in the forty-fifth year of his age.

About eight or nine miles north-eaſt of Baſingſtoke is KINGSCLEAR, which is pleaſantly ſituated on the downs, ſeven miles ſouth-eaſt of Newbury, thirty-three on the ſame point from Oxford, forty-ſeven north by weſt of Chicheſter, and fifty-two weſt of London. It was anciently the ſeat of the Weſt-Saxon kings, and is now a well frequented town, half a mile in length, and as much the other way. It has a ſmall market on Tueſdays, and two fairs, which are held on the firſt Tueſday in April, and on the firſt Tueſday after the 10th of October, for ſheep.

BURGHCLEAR is a village, four miles weſt of Kingsclear, and is ſeated under a high hill, on the top of which is a military camp, ſurrounded with a large trench. Here is an extenſive proſpect all round the country; and here was a beacon, which when ſet on fire, gave notice to all the neighbouring parts of the approach of an enemy.

Seven miles to the north of Baſingſtoke is SYLCHESTER, which is ſituated in a fine open country, about ten miles from Reading, and twelve from Newbury. This is only a hamlet, conſiſting of one farm-houſe and a church; but was formerly a large and populous city, as appears from the veſtiges of its ancient grandeur, the remains of the celebrated Vindoma, or Vindonum of the Romans, and the Caer Segont of the Britons. The walls are ſtill, in many places, almoſt entire, and in ſome parts near twenty feet high, having various kinds of trees of ſuch conſiderable bulk, growing out of them, that within twenty years it is ſaid there have been cut from them near a thouſand pounds worth of timber. Theſe walls

The North East View of Sylcheſter Walls, *in the County of* Hampſhire.



Vol. III. p. 103.

walls are chiefly built with flints, tho' iron-ſtone, and others, are frequently intermixed with them; and at the diſtance of about every two feet is a ſtratum or layer of broad flag-ſtones, which were probably intended to prevent the flint and other ſmall ſtones from falling, when aſſailed by battering-rams. Of this manner of building the reader will form a more perfect idea from the annexed plate. On the ſouth-ſouth-eaſt and ſouth-weſt ſides, the walls are at leaſt fourteen feet thick, the north ſide is indeed leſs ſubſtantial, probably, on account of its being ſecured by a moat, which the ſprings always kept full of water, for on that ſide the ditch ſtill remains, and is, in many places, full. The city was of an irregular form, but ſeems to have been intended as an octagon, tho' in ſome places the foundation will not admit of that form. There were four gates which opened to the four cardinal points; and without the eaſt gate, at about the diſtance of a hundred yards from the walls, are the remains of a Roman amphitheatre, which appears to have been ſix feet deep; the area is now converted into an horſe-pond, but the water might be eaſily let out, for the veſtiges of the old drains are ſtill to be ſeen, and might be opened with little difficulty. On the ſouth ſide of the wall is ſtill a ſally-port, and part of a ſubterraneous paſſage.

The contents of the land within the walls is about a hundred acres, which is nearly as much as was included within the walls of London; and there were, doubtleſs, very conſiderable buildings without the walls; for at about 300 yards diſtance is a bank, and a ditch that cover near two-thirds of the city, where the ground is firm, and the city was moſt likely to be attacked; and at about the diſtance of a mile and a half to the north-weſtward is ſtill a ſmall village, called the

Soak; near which are the remains of a camp, but from its form, it does not appear to be Roman; and at about half a mile from that village is a bank and ditch of ſeveral miles extent; but as it does not environ the city, it is probably of a modern date, and no part of thoſe works that were raiſed for its ſecurity.

The ſtreets of this ancient city were regular, and interſected each other at equal diſtances; the one point running from eaſt to weſt, and the other extending from north to ſouth, as evidently appears from examining the corn growing in the fields, eſpecially before harveſt, when you may trace, not only the ſtreets, but even the foundations of many of the houſes, ſome of which were ſo large, that many of the rooms were thirty-three feet in length, and twenty-eight in breadth. The reaſon why the buildings are ſo eaſily diſtinguiſhed from the ſtreets, by the growing corn, is, doubtleſs, owing to the latter's being formed of a binding gravel, or clay and gravel mixed, which burns up the corn, while the land where the buildings ſtood is a fine black mould, intermixed with the burnt rubbiſh of thoſe ſtructures; for that they were actually burnt, evidently appears from the great quantity of aſhes, and even charcoal, ſtill dug up, while no timber is to be found, nor any wood in a rotten ſtate. Beſides, many of the pieces of coin dug up here are ſo burnt, as to be deprived of the Phlogiſton principle, and capable of being reduced to powder; and others that are not ſo much burnt, are yet ſo affected by the fire, as to be deprived of the properties of taking that verditer colour, which the antiquarians call the Beautiful Ruſt, and appear as perfectly of a copper colour, as if they had been cleaned.

In or near the middle of the city are ſome remains of a temple, which was dedicated to Hercules,

cules, as appears by the following inſcription on a piece of grey marble, dug out of the foundation by Mr. Stair of Aldermaſton, in Bucks.

MEMORIÆ
FL. VICTORI
NAE. T. TAM
VICTOR
CONIVNX
POSVIT

That is,

Memoriae Flaviae Victorinae Titus Tamphilus Victor conjunx poſuit.

This city was well ſituated for health, but not for the conveniences of life, there being no river within many miles, except a little rivulet, which has its ſource in Kingsclear hills, and running within a mile of the walls, diſcharges itſelf into the river Kennet at Reading; but as this rivulet is generally dry during the ſummer ſeaſon, it could be of little ſervice. There is indeed one ſpring within the walls near the eaſt ſide, which, from the pieces of leaden pipes that have been dug up, ſeem to have ſupplied good part of the city with water; but it is now almoſt choaked up, and is very inconſiderable. There are indeed many ſprings without the walls, and perhaps there were wells enough within to afford them water ſufficient to ſuſtain a ſiege.

Camden informs us, that this city was rebuilt by Conſtantius, but was unable to let us know by whom it was firſt erected. We cannot therefore help obſerving, that it was probably firſt built by the ancient Britons themſelves, who learned very early the method of building forts from the Phœnicians; for Mr. Stair, in digging under an old building, after taking up the Roman pavement, and the foundation, diſcovered another

foundation, of ſtill more ancient date and different workmanſhip, compoſed of rough flint ſtones, and coarſe gravelly mortar; and indeed the conjecture of its being orignally built by the Britons, is rendered the more probable, from the Britiſh coins that have been found there, among which is one of gold, and another of ſilver, very perfect and extremely well preſerved, in the poſſeſſion of Mr. Stair.

The materials uſually dug up from the ruins are Roman pavements, Roman tiles, pieces of coarſe marble, pieces of round free-ſtone pillars, ſquare free-ſtones, fluted at the edges, and ſome of them very large; pieces of ſtatues but none entire, pieces of leaden pipes, keys, thimbles, ſwords, and daggers, ſtone maſons tools, pieces of ſaws, ſmall bells, necklaces of blue beads on links of braſs wire, pieces of copper veſſels ornamented, ivory and copper bodkins; pieces of the heads and bones of various animals, parts of the human ſkull, with the teeth large and almoſt entire; and which is very extraordinary, without the walls eaſtward a human ſkeleton was dug up that was full nine feet long. Roman coins are found here in abundance, of gold, ſilver, copper, and Corinthian braſs; ſome caſed with ſilver, and others only gilt. Among theſe coins, as I have already obſerved, are ſome that are ancient Britiſh; and the reſt are Roman; ſome of them conſular, and the reſt are moſt of the emperors and empreſſes from Auguſtus down to Maximus, in or near whoſe reign it was probably deſtroyed, for tho' a great number of coins are found of almoſt all the emperors and empreſſes, (except Otho) yet not one has been found of any Roman monarch ſince Maximus, nor any Saxon or Daniſh coins at all, which there probably would have been, had the city ſubſiſted after his time.

time. We must observe, that Mr. Stair has now in his possession above two thousand coins in gold, silver, copper and brass, which have been dug up here, on most of which the inscriptions are entire, tho' the reverses are generally different; he has also two onyx stones, on one of which is represented a cock picking out of a cornucopia, and the other has these four letters ZACP. They are each of the size of common seals, and both of the form of an oval.

We shall now return from viewing these antiquities to Basingstoke, from whence we shall proceed eastward to ODIAM, a small market town eight miles east of Basingstoke, and forty-one from London. It is a corporation town, and was formerly a free borough of the bishop of Winchester. It has a charity-school for thirty boys, and had formerly a royal palace and a strong castle, which in the reign of king John was defended against Lewis dauphin of France, and the army of the barons, for fifteen days by only thirteen men. In this castle David king of Scotland was kept prisoner in the reign of Edward the Third. It has a market on Saturdays, and two fairs, one held on Mid-Lent Saturday, and the other on the 31st of July, for cattle and toys.

Seven miles to the northward of Odiam is EVERSLEY, a village, which has two fairs, held on the 16th of May, and the 18th of October, for cattle and toys.

We shall now proceed to the southward, and following the road from London to Southampton, shall begin with ALTON, which is about ten miles south-west of Odiam, and is half a mile in length. It has a charity-school for forty boys, and twenty girls, and has a very considerable market on Saturdays for provisions, with a fair on the 29th of September, for cattle and toys. The great Ro-

man highway leads from the city of Winchester to this town, and as is supposed from thence to London, tho' the remains of it are not visible beyond Alton. Here lord Hopton posted himself with a body of troops in the reign of king Charles the First, but Waller with a body of forces marched against him, and attacking the place, made prisoners of Colonel Bowles's regiment of foot; for that officer retiring with his men into the church, had not time to barricade the doors, and the enemy entering with him, his soldiers threw down their arms, and asked for quarter, which was granted, and also offered to the colonel; but he refusing to take it, was killed on the spot.

John Pits, a noted biographer, was born in 1560 at Alton, and educated at Wykeham's school near Winchester, and at New college in Oxford. In 1580, he left the kingdom as a voluntary Romish exile; and after studying at Doway, Rheims, and other foreign seminaries, he became confessor to the duchess of Cleves, and dean of Liverdun in the province of Lorraine. He died at that place on the 17th of October, 1616. He wrote a book, entitled, *De Illustribus Angliæ Scriptoribus*, and some other tracts.

Five miles north-east of Alton is BENTLEY-GREEN, a very pretty chearful well built village, the houses scattered, and all with neat well planted gardens before them. The fences on each side of the road for ten miles to and from this village are of white-thorn, of a vigorous growth, kept clean weeded, and a great number of them regularly clipped. The country is very pleasant, a due mean between hilly and flat, and open to agreeable landscapes, and the number of scattered houses and villages render it lively, especially as they are so neat.

At

At SELBORN near Alton was a priory of black canons, founded in 1233 by Peter de Rupibus, and dedicated to the Virgin Mary, but it was suppreſſed and granted to William Wainfleet, biſhop of Wincheſter, who made it a part of the endowment of St. Mary Magdalen's college in Oxford. It was valued at the diſſolution at about 338 l. a year.

At WEST SHERBORN, which is likewiſe near Alton, was a priory of Benedictine monks, dedicated to St. Mary and St. John, which became a cell to the abbey of St. Vigor at Ceraſy in Normandy, to which it was given by Henry de Port, one of the barons of the Exchequer, in the reign of king Henry the Firſt; but it was afterwards given by Edward the Fourth to the hoſpital of St. Julian in Southampton, and is now enjoyed by the provoſt and fellows of Queen's college in Oxford, as maſters of that hoſpital.

Nine miles to the ſouth-weſt of Alton is ALRESFORD, which probably received its name from its ſituation near the river Alre, now called the Itching, and is ſituated eighteen miles north by eaſt of Southampton, ſeven north-eaſt of Wincheſter, and ſixty weſt by ſouth of London. It is an ancient borough, ſomewhat more than three furlongs in length, governed by a bailiff and eight burgeſſes. On the firſt of May 1690, a dreadful fire broke out here, in ſeveral places at the ſame time, and conſumed the whole town, ſparing neither the church nor the market-houſe; and ſince that time it has had the misfortune to be twice totally reduced to aſhes; but it has ſince recovered itſelf, and is at preſent a neat place, that has a conſiderable market on Thurſdays, for ſheep and all ſorts of proviſions, and likewiſe a fair on the 24th of June, for ſheep, horſes, and cows.

At CHERITON Downs, near Alresford, a battle was fought on the 29th of March 1644, between the lord Hopton, who commanded for king Charles the First, at the head of about 8000 men, and Waller, who had a body of the parliament forces, but lord Hopton was defeated, and there fell on the king's side, the lord John Stewart, brother to the duke of Richmond, and Sir John Smith, brother to lord Carrington.

We shall now return to Winchester, and proceeding from thence to Rumsey, which we have already described, shall cross the country to CHARDFORD, or CARDICFORD, a village seated on the river Avon, and so called from a Saxon named Cerdic, who was the founder of the kingdom of the West-Saxons. That prince, after many battles with the Britons, who had various commanders, at length vanquished Natenlode at this village, and obtained this country.

Four miles to the south-west of Chardford is FORDING-BRIDGE, an obscure town, situated on the river Avon, six miles north of Ringwood, and eighty-five from London. It was formerly much larger than it is at present, it having suffered greatly by fire, particularly about fifty years ago. It had formerly a market, which is now disused, but it has still a fair on the 9th of September, for colts and pedlars-ware.

At GODSHILL near this town is an old camp, now overgrown with trees, but the steepness of one side of it, and a double trench on the other, must have rendered it a place of great strength.

Six miles to the south of Fordingbridge is RINGWOOD, a town of great antiquity, twenty-nine miles south-west of Winchester, and sixty-nine west of London. It is situated near the river Avon, but the valley in which it lies is frequently overflowed by that river, which here divides itself

ſelf into ſeveral ſtreams; it is, however, a thriving town, and has good manufactures of druggets, narrow cloths, ſtockings, and leather. It has a market on Wedneſdays, and two fairs, held on the 10th of July, and the 11th of December, for foreſt colts and pedlary. Some have taken this town to be the Regnum of Antoninus, but Horſley places that town at Chicheſter. Near this place the duke of Monmouth, after his defeat at Sedgmore in 1685, was taken in a pea-field, hid in a ditch covered with fern, with ſome green peas in his pocket, he having probably eaten nothing elſe for two days, and in this town he was kept priſoner till he was carried to London, where he was ſoon after beheaded.

Eight miles to the ſouth of Ringwood is CHRIST-CHURCH, which was antiently called Twinambourne, from its being ſituated at the conflux of the rivers Avon and Stour, near the place where they fall into Chriſt-church bay, and has received its preſent name from the dedication of its church to Chriſt. This town is ten miles eaſt of Poole in Dorſetſhire, and 101 weſt of London. It is a large, populous place, governed by a mayor, a recorder, aldermen, bailiffs, and a common-council; and ſends two members to parliament, who are elected by a majority of burgeſſes within and without the borough. Its principal manufactures are ſilk ſtockings and gloves. It has a market on Mondays, and two fairs, which are held on Trinity-Thurſday, and the 17th of October, for horſes and bullocks. This town had formerly a caſtle, which is now in ruins. In its church was fixed a dean and twenty-four ſecular canons, ſo early as the reign of king Edward the Confeſſor. Their college was rebuilt after the conqueſt by Ranulph Lambard, biſhop of Durham, who was ſome time dean here; and its revenues were much

much increaſed by the elder Richard de Redvers, earl of Devonſhire, in the reign of king Henry the Firſt; but earl Baldwin, that nobleman's ſon, about the year 1150, procured that the ſecular ſhould be changed into regular canons of the order of St. Auguſtine. The annual revenues of this priory were, at the ſuppreſſion, valued at 312l. 7s.

Between the eaſt ſide of the Avon and Southampton-bay lies NEW FOREST, which is at leaſt forty miles in circumference. This tract of country originally abounded with towns and villages, in which were no leſs than thirty-ſix pariſh-churches; but this whole tract was laid waſte, and the inhabitants driven from their houſes and eſtates by king William the Firſt, in order to render it a royal chace. It is remarkable, that in this foreſt, the monument of his oppreſſion and cruelty, Richard and king Willam Rufus, two of his ſons, and Henry his grandſon, loſt their lives. Richard was killed by a peſtilential blaſt, and William Rufus was ſlain by an arrow, ſhot by Sir Walter Tyrrell at a ſtag, and Henry, while purſuing his game, was caught by the hair of his head, which was entangled by the bow of a tree, and ſuſpended there till he died. There is an oak ſtill to be ſeen, which was paled in by king Charles the Second, from a tradition that it was the very tree, on the trunk of which Sir Walter Tyrell's arrow glanced, when it killed William Rufus. In this foreſt are nine walks, to each of which a keeper is appointed; beſides theſe, there is a lord warden, two rangers, and a bow-bearer.

In the pariſh of Hordell is HORDELL CLIFF, which is ſituated on the ſea coaſt between Chriſtchurch and Lymington, and is in perpendicular height about fifty yards from the ſea. It extends about a mile and a half along the ſhore, and is compoſed chiefly of red gravel, to about eighteen

or

or twenty yards below the ſurface; but amongſt the gravel very few ſhells or remains of marine bodies are to be found. In many parts of the cliff are large veins, or rather maſſes of a moldering, ſoft clay, through which land-ſprings are continually trickling down, which by degrees looſen the clay, and cauſe it to ſlide away in great beds one below another, and perhaps the froſts may not a little contribute to produce this effect; ſo that the ſurface has, in a few years, been greatly worn away. When this fall of the cliff happens, there is then found, perhaps, the greateſt variety, both of the turbinated and bivalve ſhells that were ever met with in any one place in the world, in their original ſtate, and have ſuffered no change ever ſince the deluge. Many of theſe ſhells are the natural inhabitants of very diſtant regions, and ſome of them entirely unknown, either in their natural or foſſil ſtate. Towards the bottom of the cliff are frequently found large nodules, reſembling a hard reddiſh iron-ſtone or marble, yet they are no other than an entire maſs of ſhells; and with this ſubſtance the church and other edifices are built.

Eleven miles to the eaſt of Chriſt-church is LYMINGTON, or LEMINGTON, which is pleaſantly ſeated upon a hill that commands a fine proſpect of the Iſle of Wight, at the diſtance of eighteen miles ſouth-weſt of Southampton, and eighty-five weſt of London. It is an ancient borough governed by a mayor, aldermen, and burgeſſes without limitation; the mayor is annually choſen by the burgeſſes, and ſworn at the court-leet of the lord of the manor. The repreſentatives in parliament are alſo choſen by the burgeſſes, within and without the borough. The town is ſmall but populous; and tho' the river by which it is ſeated is not navigable very far up, yet it here forms a very commodious port for ſhipping. Here is a quay, and officers

ficers appointed to take care of the cuſtoms; and likewiſe ſeveral ſhipwrights, who are chiefly employed in building ſmall veſſels for the merchants. Great quantities of ſalt have been made here, which is ſaid to exceed moſt in England for preſerving fleſh; and the ſouth parts of the kingdom were chiefly ſupplied with it, till the merchants of Liverpool interfered in the trade, and ſent the Cheſhire ſalt, which they ſold cheaper. The town had a new market-houſe built about ſixty years ago, and the market is kept on Saturdays; beſides which, there are two fairs, which are held on the 12th of May, and the 13th of October, for horſes, cheeſe and bacon.

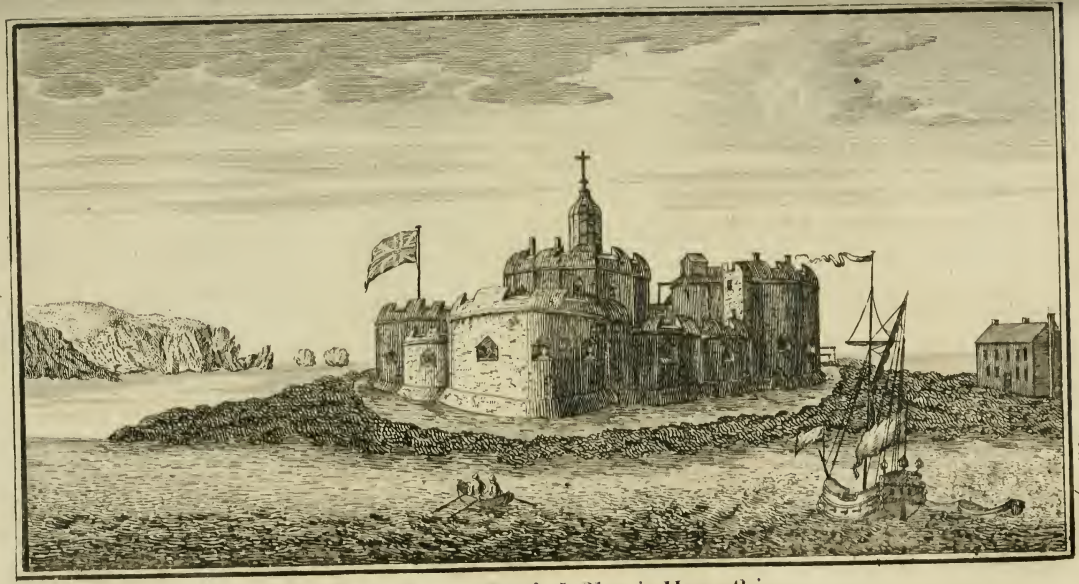
About five miles north-eaſt of Lymington is BEAULIEU, a village that has two fairs, held on the 15th of April, and the 4th of September, for horſes and cattle.

At the extremity of a promontory, which projects into the ſea, towards the weſt end of the Iſle of Wight, forming the ſhorteſt paſſage to that iſland, is HURST Caſtle, which was built by king Henry the Eighth, for the defence of that channel or paſſage called the Needles, and is therefore a very ſtrong place, in which a garriſon is conſtantly kept; and of this ſtructure we have given an engraved view. To this caſtle colonel Corbet brought king Charles the Firſt, who was kept here till major-general Harriſon carried him up to London, where that unhappy prince was ſoon after beheaded.

THE ISLE OF WIGHT.

We have now taken a view of every part of this county, except the Iſle of Wight, which is always included in Hampſhire; but being a ſeparate iſland, remarkable for its fertility, and

ſome



Vol.III.pa.206.

The East View of Hurſt-Caſtle, *in* Hampſhire..

ſome other advantages, it is proper to conſider it by itſelf.

This iſland was called by the Romans Vecta, Vectis, and Victeſis, from which the Saxons are ſuppoſed to have formed the names Wicwea and Wuitland; but it does not certainly appear from whence theſe Roman names received their origin, though ſome derive them from Guith, the name by which the Britons diſtinguiſhed this iſland, and which ſignifying a ſeparation, has been applied to expreſs the diviſion of this country from the iſland of Britain, to which it is ſuppoſed to have been once joined. The Iſle of Wight lies ſouth of Hampſhire, and is only ſeparated from the other parts of that county by a narrow rapid channel, which is in no part above four or five miles broad, and in the narroweſt part, between Hurſt caſtle juſt deſcribed, and the land near Yarmouth in this iſland, is only two miles. The Iſle of Wight is uſually conſidered as of an elliptical or oval form; but ſuch alluſions in the form of iſlands are always to be conſidered with great latitude; the coaſt of the Iſle of Wight is far from deſcribing a regular oval; however, its greateſt extent from eaſt to weſt is twenty miles; it grows narrow at the eaſtern and weſtern extremities; in the centre is twelve miles over from north to ſouth, and is ſixty miles in circumference. Newport, the capital town, which is ſeated nearly in the middle of the iſland, is about eighty miles diſtant from London.

The only river in the Iſle of Wight, worthy of notice, is termed Cowes river, from two towns near its mouth; one on the eaſt bank called Eaſt Cowes, and the other on the weſt bank called Weſt Cowes; it is alſo ſometimes denominated Newport river, from the town of Newport, which is ſeated on its weſt bank in the heart of the

the country. This river has its ſource near the ſouthern extremity of the iſland, and running north, divides it into two nearly equal parts, and then diſcharges itſelf into the ſea at the moſt northern point of land, ſeven miles from Newport.

The air is both pleaſant and healthy, whence the inhabitants, being generally ſtrong and active, live to a great age. The ſoil is remarkably fruitful, the north part affording excellent paſturage and meadow grounds, while the ſouth is a fine corn country. A ridge of mountains runs thro' the middle of the iſland from eaſt to weſt, on which are fed a great number of ſheep, remarkable for the fineneſs of their wool, which is as good as any in England, and is of great advantage to the inhabitants. Among the natural productions is here found the milk-white tobacco-pipe clay, of which great quantities are exported; together with a fine white ſand, of which drinking-glaſſes are made. It has been obſerved of this iſland, that it yields more corn in one year, than the inhabitants conſume in ſeven; and therefore they annually export great quantities of it. There are in this iſle two parks well ſtocked with deer, but there being only one foreſt, wood is ſo ſcarce, that they are obliged to import it in great quantities. Here is plenty of hares, rabbits, pheaſants, partridges, lapwings, and other wild-fowl, beſides abundance of ſea-fiſh of all kinds.

Nature has almoſt encompaſſed this iſland with a fortification of rocks, the moſt dangerous of which, with reſpect to mariners, are the Shingles and Needles, upon the weſt ſide of it; the Mixon on the eaſt, and the Bramble and the Middle on the north; and where theſe natural bulwarks are wanting, this deficiency has been ſupplied with caſtles, forts, and blockhouſes, to defend it from any hoſtile invaſion.

This

This island was probably a part of the territories inhabited by the Belgae, and it was brought under subjection to the Roman empire about the year 45, by Vespasian, in the reign of the emperor Claudian. It was afterwards conquered by Cerdic, king of the West Saxons; he bestowed it on Whitgar, who cruelly put all the British inhabitants to the sword, and peopled it with the Jutes, a tribe of foreigners, who followed the Saxons into England. To these people it remained subject till about the year 650, when it was conquered by Walfar, king of the Mercians, and given, according to some historians, to Edelwalch, king of the South Saxons, while others affirm, that it was given to Sigebert, king of the East Angles, on condition of his embracing the Christian religion. Cadwaller, king of the West Saxons, is said to have invaded this island some time after, and to have reduced it to his obedience by the massacre of its inhabitants.

Historians are silent about what followed till the year 1066, when Tostius, brother of king Harold, landed here with a fleet of piratical vessels from Flanders; and having put the inhabitants under contribution, sailed away. It has also several times suffered by invasions from the French, particularly in the first year of the reign of Richard the Second, when they landed, burnt several towns, and laid siege to Carisbrook castle, but were obliged to raise it; however, they carried away 1000 marks of silver, which they had obliged the inhabitants to pay them. Afterwards, in the year 1403, a thousand French having landed, seized a great number of cattle, but as they were driving them to their ships, they were attacked in their retreat, when 200 of the invaders were killed, and the cattle recovered. In short, in the year 1545, the island was again invaded by

2000

2000 French, but they were forced back to their ſhips, leaving their commander, and many of their men, dead behind them, beſides a conſiderable number that were taken priſoners. At length the Iſle of Wight, with the neighbouring iſlands of Jerſey and Guernſey, ſituated near the coaſt of France, were erected into a kingdom by king Henry the Sixth, and beſtowed on Henry de Beauchamp, duke of Warwick, whom he crowned king with his own hands; but the duke dying without iſſue, theſe iſlands loſt their regality, and again reverted to the crown.

With reſpect to the civil and eccleſiaſtical diviſions of this iſland, the two parts into which it is divided by the river Cowes, are its hundreds or civil diviſions, here called the Medinas from Medina, the ancient name of Newport, and are diſtinguiſhed by their ſituation, the one being called the Weſt, and the other the Eaſt Medina. It contains three market towns, fifty-two pariſhes, and about 25000 inhabitants. There are in this iſland ſeveral beacons, where they keep watch to give notice of the approach of an enemy; or at leaſt this was the practice not many years ago. After mentioning theſe beacons, it will be proper to take notice of the tower of St. Catherine, which ſtands upon the ſummit of St. Catherine's Hill Down, on the back of the Iſle of Wight, about 750 feet higher than high-water-mark, and about half a mile from the ſea, commanding one of the moſt extenſive views, both by ſea and land, of any place in Britain. It is part of a conſecrated building of conſiderable antiquity, as appears by the Wincheſter regiſter, in which is this entry, "Walter de Langſterell, admiſſus ad Hermitori-"um ſupra montem de Chale in inſula Victis. "Idil. Octobris A. D. 1312." This tower is on the outſide octagonal, and within quadrangu-

lar;

lar; each ſide, both of the octagon and quadrangle, is juſt four feet, its height to the roof is twenty-ſeven feet, and the perpendicular height of the roof is two feet. It appears to be a Gothic imitation of the eight winds at Athens, built by Andronicus, and has been long a ſea-mark, it having been of the moſt important ſervice in directing our mariners to avoid the adjacent rocky ſhores in navigating the channel. The military government of the Iſle of Wight is a poſt of great truſt and honour, whence it is always veſted in a perſon of the firſt military rank, as a general of the army, or an admiral of the fleet; and under him are the reſpective governors of the forts and caſtles, where there is conſtantly kept at leaſt a regiment in garriſon. In eccleſiaſtical affairs it is ſubject to the juriſdiction of the biſhop of Wincheſter, and in civil affairs, to the county of Southampton.

Upon landing in this iſland from Hurſt caſtle you come to YARMOUTH, which is alſo called SOUTH-YARMOUTH, to diſtinguiſh it from Yarmouth in Norfolk. This town ſtands upon a creek, about a mile from the ſea, at the diſtance of eighty-ſix miles from London. It was incorporated by king James the Firſt, and is a borough town, governed by a mayor. When a mayor is elected, the inqueſt, conſiſting of ten common-councilmen, and two commoners, are ſhut up in the Guildhall without proviſions, &c. till nine out of the twelve agree in the choice. It ſends two members to parliament, and has a caſtle for its defence, a garriſon, and about eighty handſome houſes, the greateſt part of which are built of free-ſtone. It has a market on Fridays, and a fair on the 25th of July, for toys. At a ſmall diſtance to the weſt is Sherpnor caſtle, which is directly oppoſite to Hurſt caſtle on the continent; and

and here uſed to be a ſmall garriſon under a governor.

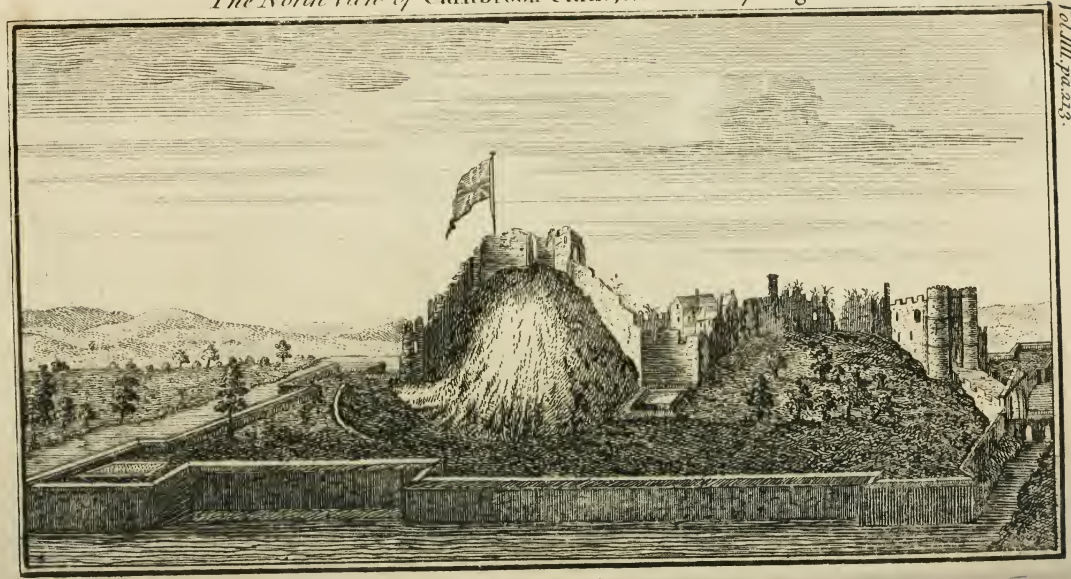
From Yarmouth a road leads to NEWTON, which lies four miles to the weſt of it, and is a borough, tho' a poor place, it having nothing worthy of note, except a convenient haven or creek, in the north-weſt ſide of the iſland, between Yarmouth and Weſt Cowes. It is governed by a mayor and burgeſſes, and enjoys the privilege of ſending two members to parliament. It had a market, and has ſtill a fair, on the 22d of July, for old horſes and toys.

From hence a road extends eaſtward to NEWPORT, the principal town in the iſland, which is ſituated ten miles weſt of Yarmouth, and eighty-five ſouth-weſt of London. It is ſeated on the weſt bank of the river Cowes, and is an ancient borough by preſcription, but did not ſend members to parliament before the reign of queen Elizabeth. By a charter of king James the Firſt, it is governed by a mayor, a recorder, twelve aldermen, and twelve common-council. It is a populous town, and yet its church is only a chapel of eaſe to Careſbrook, a neighbouring village. Here is a charity-ſchool, and a quay, to which veſſels of ſmall burthen can come up; but thoſe that are larger, are forced to unlade at Cowes, and the merchandize is carried up to Newport in boats and barges. It has two markets, which are held on Wedneſdays and Saturdays, and are plentifully ſupplied with proviſions; but it has only one fair, which is on Whit-Monday, for old horſes and toys.

CARESBROOK, or CARISBROOK caſtle, is a little to the ſouth of Newport; it ſtands on a beautiful and exalted eminence, near the center of the Iſle of Wight, overlooking the village of Cariſbrook. It was a ſtrong fortreſs before the uſe

of

The North View of Carisbrook Castle, *in the* Isle *of* Wight.



of fire arms; its antiquity is not known. It was originally built by Whitager, a follower of Cerdic, the firſt king of the Weſt-Saxons, from whom it then took the name of Whitgaraburgh, which was afterwards contracted to Cariſbrook. It was repaired by Richard de Rivers, earl of Devon, in the reign of Henry the Firſt, and afterwards by queen Elizabeth. It was magnificently rebuilt in the beginning of the ſixteeenth century, by the governor of the iſland, probably at the expence of the crown. King Charles the Firſt was a priſoner in it thirteen months. There is a well belonging to it upwards of 210 feet deep, that is ſupplied with excellent water, drawn up by an aſs's working in a wheel of fifteen feet diameter, in the ſame manner as a dog turns a ſpit. There was likewiſe another well in the keep or dungeon, near 300 feet deep, which is now almoſt filled up with rubbiſh. Belonging to it there is a very pretty chapel, in which divine ſervice is performed. The caſtle falls to ruins very faſt. The governor's houſe was converted to an hoſpital for the ſick of the camp of 1758, the rooms ſtill remaining in the ſame condition in which they were left. Of this ſtructure we have given the reader an engraved view.

The village of Careſbrook was formerly a conſiderable town, though it is now gone greatly to decay. Here was formerly a convent of black monks, which was a cell firſt to Lyre in Normandy, afterwards to the abbey of Montgrace in Yorkſhire, and at laſt to the Ciſtercians of Sheen.

At QUARRER near Newort was an abbey of Ciſtercian monks, built and endowed by Baldwin de Rivers, firſt earl of Devonſhire, and lord of this iſland, who dedicated it to the Virgin Mary. Its annual revenues were valued, at the ſuppreſſion,

at

at 134l. a year, by Dugdale, but at 184l. by Speed.

At MARVEL, not far from Newport, was a college of four prieſts, founded by Henry de Blois, biſhop of Wincheſter, and augmented by Peter Roche, and Henry Woodlock, two of his ſucceſſors; and in the park, near this place, is a church, in which was a chantry, at the diſſolution; and at St. Croſs, near Newport, was a priory or hoſpital before the year 1155, dedicated to the Holy Croſs. This was a cell to the abbey of Tirone in France.

At APPLEDURCOMB, near the coaſt ſouth-eaſt of Newport, was a cell of Benedictine monks, founded by Iſabella de Fortibus, about the end of the reign of king Henry the Third, and made ſubordinate to the abbey of St. Mary de Montiſburg in Normandy, but was diſſolved, with the reſt of the alien priories, by king Henry the Fifth, and at Godſhill, north of Appledurcomb, is a church, which was early appropriated to the abbey of Lyre in Normandy. At this village John Worſley erected a ſchool about 150 years ago, for the education of youth.

EAST and WEST COWES are two pretty towns, about four miles north of Newport; they enjoy a very good trade, and have ſeveral rich merchants who reſide there. In theſe towns maſters of ſhips and merchants take proviſions on board, and are alſo furniſhed with money for bills in London. However, as the ſituation is low, the air is not eſteemed very healthful. At Weſt Cowes, there is a caſtle which was built by Henry the Eighth, for the defence of this part of the iſland, and for the ſafety of Newport; it therefore ſtands at the mouth of the river, and though it is but a ſmall ſtructure, it is ſtrong enough for the purpoſe for which it was intended. There was alſo a caſtle

at

at East Cowes, but it has long since been suffered to run to decay. West Cowes has a fair on the Thursday in Whitsun-week, for toys.

At BURTON, near East Cowes, was a priory of canons of the order of St. Augustine, dedicated to the Holy Trinity, so early as the reign of king Edward the First. It consisted of several chaplains under the government of an archipresbyter, who, in the nineteenth of Henry the Sixth, gave away the estate of the priory to St. Mary's college in Winchester.

ST. HELEN'S is seated on the eastern part of the island, and though an inconsiderable place, gives name to a spacious road, where men of war often ride. There was here an alien priory of Cluniac monks before the year 1155.

BRADING, which lies to the south-west of St. Helen's, is also an inconsiderable place. It has been a market town, and has still two fairs, which are held on the 12th of May, and the 2d of October, for toys.

About two miles to the south of Brading is SANDOWN, or SANHAM castle, which stands on the north end of Sandown bay, and is said to be the strongest castle in the island; here is constantly kept a garrison, with a governor, a captain, and thirty wardens, besides gunners.

This county has produced the following great men, besides those already mentioned.

William of Wickham, an able statesman, and worthy prelate, in the fourteenth century, was born of mean parentage, at Wickham in Hampshire, in the year 1324. He had his education at Winchester-school, where he made a considerable progress in classical knowledge; but his learning went little farther. His first patron was Nicholas Uvedale, lord of the manor of Wickham, who took

took him into his family, and made him his secretary. By this gentleman he was recommended to Edington, bishop of Winchester, who introduced him to the notice of king Edward the Third; and that prince, finding him a very skilful architect, appointed him surveyor of the royal buildings, with a competent allowance. He superintended the building, both of Windsor-castle, and that at Queenborough; and having executed these, and some other works, with equal judgment and fidelity, he was rewarded by his majesty, with several high preferments, both civil and ecclesiastical. He became successively rector of Pulham in Norfolk; prebendary of Flixton, in the cathedral of Litchfield; dean of the royal free chapel, or the collegiate church of St. Martin's-le-grand, London; warden and justiciary of the king's forests on the south side of Trent, and upon the death of bishop Edington in 1366, he succeeded that prelate in the see of Winchester. Next year he was appointed lord high chancellor of England; and this post he executed with universal applause, till 1370, when, at the king's desire, he resigned it. He was afterwards, by the intrigues of the potent duke of Lancaster, accused of extortion, and stripped of his temporalities; but to these king Edward, who was convinced of his innocence, in a little time restored him. In the reign of king Richard the Second, he again executed the office of chancellor; but foreseeing the troubles which soon after ensued, he voluntarily resigned it, and retired to his diocese. From this time forward he employed himself chiefly in the discharge of his ecclesiastical function; and dying September the 27th, 1404, was interred in the cathedral church of Winchester. His noble foundations have immortalized his memory, particularly his college at Winchester, and the new

college

college in Oxford. He likewiſe rebuilt the cathedral of Wincheſter in a magnificent ſtyle.

John Greaves, an eminent mathematician and antiquary, was born in 1602 at Colemore in Hampſhire, and educated at Baliol and Merton college in Oxford. In 1630, he was choſen profeſſor of Geometry in Greſham college, London. About the year 1635 he ſet out on his travels; and, after viſiting Leyden, Paris and Rome, he continued his journey into the eaſtern countries. He meaſured the pyramids at Grand Cairo; made a curious collection of Greek, Arabic, and Perſian manuſcripts; amaſſed a great number of gems and other antiquities; and returning by Florence and Rome, took ſhipping for England, where he arrived before Midſummer 1640. Being deprived of his profeſſorſhip in Greſham college, on account of his neglecting to read lectures, he was choſen about the ſame time Savilian profeſſor of aſtronomy in Oxford. In 1645 he propoſed a method for correcting the calendar, and introducing the new or Gregorian ſtile, by omitting the intercalary day of the leap year for forty years ſucceſſively; and his propoſal would probably have been carried into execution, had it not been prevented by the diſorders of the times. In 1646 he publiſhed his *Pyramidographia*, or a *Deſcription of the Pyramids in Egypt*; and *his Diſcourſe of the Roman foot*, and *Denarius*, the year following. He was ejected from his profeſſorſhip by the parliamentary viſitors in 1648; when leaving the univerſity, he retired to London, and continued to proſecute his ſtudies till his death, which happened October the 8th, 1652, in the fiftieth year of his age. He was the author of ſeveral works, beſides thoſe already mentioned.

Edward Young, a worthy divine and ingenious poet, was the ſon of a clergyman, and born, in

the year 1684, at Upham in Hampſhire. He had his education at Wincheſter college, and at New college in Oxford. He applied himſelf, for ſome time, to the ſtudy of the law, though he never practiſed that profeſſion. In 1728 he took holy orders, and became chaplain to king George the Second, and about two years after he was preſented by the college of All-Souls in Oxford (of which he was a fellow) to the rectory of Welwyn in Hertfordſhire. Thus ſettled, he entered into a marriage with the lady Betty Lee, widow of colonel Lee, and daughter to the earl of Litchfield; a lady, it is ſaid, of the moſt amiable endowments; whoſe death, with that of her daughter by her firſt huſband, he has pathetically lamented in his *Night Thoughts*, his capital performance. But, notwithſtanding this powerful connection, and his own merit, he could never riſe to any higher preferment, except that of being clerk of the cloſet to her royal highneſs the princeſs dowager of Wales. He died April the 12th, 1765, and was interred by the ſide of his wife, in his pariſh church at Welwyn. He left behind him an only ſon, to whom, though far from being ſatisfied with his conduct, he bequeathed the bulk of his fortune. Beſides his Night Thoughts, he wrote three Tragedies, *Buſiris*, *the Revenge*, and *the Brothers*; a poem, called, *The Laſt Day*; another, named *The Force of Religion*, or *Vanquiſhed Love*; *the Love of Fame*, or *the univerſal Paſſion*; *An Eſtimate of Human Life*; *the Centaur not fabulous*; and ſome other performances.

HERE-

HEREFORDSHIRE.

THIS county received its name from the city of Hereford, and is bounded on the north by Shropſhire; on the eaſt by Worceſterſhire and Gloceſterſhire; on the ſouth by Gloceſterſhire and Monmouthſhire; and on the weſt by the Welch counties of Brecknockſhire and Radnorſhire. It is ſomewhat of a circular form, and extends about thirty-five miles in length from north to ſouth, thirty in breadth from eaſt to weſt, and is a hundred and eight miles in circumference. Hereford, which ſtands near the centre, is a hundred and thirty miles north-weſt of London.

In the time of the Romans, this county, together with Radnorſhire, Brecknockſhire, Monmouthſhire and Glamorganſhire, was inhabited by the Silures, a ſtout, bold, and warlike people, who long oppoſed the Roman power under Caractacus their king, being made deſperate by the emperor Claudius's declaration, that they ſhould be totally exterminated, but they were at length defeated by Aulus Plautius, and their king Caratacus or Caractacus taken and ſent to Rome, where he was led in triumph; but they were not entirely ſubdued till the reign of Veſpaſian, when a Roman legion being placed among them, prevented a revolt.

This county continued under the juriſdiction of the Britons, for ſeveral centuries after the Saxons eſtabliſhed themſelves in this iſland; but

at laſt, after they had ſettled their ſeven kingdoms, it was ſubdued by a king of Mercia, who annexed it to his own dominions. Yet afterwards it was perpetually harraſſed by the Welch, on whoſe country it borders; on which account Offa, king of Mercia, thought it neceſſary to make a broad ditch a hundred miles long, called Offa's Dyke, in order to divide it from Wales, ſome traces of which are ſtill viſible. This county was alſo fortified with no leſs than twenty-eight caſtles, but the greateſt part of them are now entirely demoliſhed. However, all theſe precautions did not hinder the Welch from making inroads, particularly in 1056, ten years before the reign of William the Firſt, Griffin, king of South Wales, invaded this county, and defeated the Engliſh two miles from Hereford. The Normans, however, ſoon conquered this county, for they obtained the poſſeſſion of it almoſt immediately after the conqueſt.

The ſtreams that water Herefordſhire generally fall from the Welch mountains, and entering this county on the weſtern ſide, keep an eaſtern courſe for a time, and then turning ſouthward, unite in one channel, and part the counties of Gloceſter and Monmouth, falling into the Severn, near its mouth. Its principal rivers are the Wye, the Monow, and the Lug.

The courſe of the Wye we have already deſcribed in treating of the rivers of Gloceſterſhire.

The Monow has its ſource in a chain of mountains called Hatterell-hills, which, on the ſouth-weſt, divide this county from Radnorſhire; then running ſouth-eaſt, ſeparates Herefordſhire from Monmouthſhire; and after being increaſed, by receiving ſeveral ſmaller ſtreams, falls into the Wye at Monmouth.

The

The Lug riſes in the mountains in the north-eaſt part of Radnorſhire, and running by ſeveral windings eaſt through Herefordſhire to Leominſter, turns ſouth-eaſt, and after being joined by ſome ſmaller rivers, falls into the Wye near Hereford. The Wye and Lug are made navigable by act of parliament, and are of great ſervice to the country, in carrying off the cyder, and bringing foreign merchandize from Briſtol.

The other leſs conſiderable rivers are the Frome, the Loden, the Dare, the Arrow, and the Wedel. Theſe rivers, particularly the Wye, abound in ſalmon, which are always fat, ſound, and fit for the table, while thoſe of other rivers are ſick and lean.

In this county are alſo ſome medicinal waters, particularly on the top of Malvern-hill, is a ſpring of excellent uſe for curing ſore eyes. About a furlong lower is another, which, Dr. Beale informs us, is of great uſe in the cure of cancers, if not too far gone. About two miles and a half from Malvern-hills, is another ſpring called Holywell, ſaid to be of great uſe in cleanſing the ſkin from freckles, and making it exceeding ſmooth. It is full of ſmall thin laminae, which appear like the pureſt ſilver. Within two miles of this laſt is another Holywell, which is efficacious in healing old ulcers, and in the cure of ſore eyes.

The air of Herefordſhire is very agreeable and healthy, though ſomewhat cold from the neighbourhood of the Welch mountains. As an extraordinary inſtance of the longevity of the inhabitants of this county, Mr. Serjeant Hoſkins, who poſſeſſed a conſiderable eſtate in it, invited king James the Firſt, while he was on a progreſs this way, to his houſe, where, having elegantly en-

tertained him, he procured ten old men and women, whose ages put together amounted to above a thousand years, to dance the morrice before him.

This county produces a good sort of dark coloured marble, which is chiefly found about Ledbury, and is used in the best houses for Chimney-pieces and hearths.

The soil of Herefordshire is extremely fertile, yielding great quantities of corn, particularly excellent wheat and barley, which make exceeding good malt. It is also well stocked with wood. The country abounds with apple-trees, which grow in almost every part of it; and some of these, particularly the red-streaks, thrive better here than in any other county; the hedges on the highways are full of them, and the hogs grow exceeding fat by feeding on the wind-falls, which give a sweet taste, and a reddish colour to their flesh: but the inhabitants receive a much greater advantage from these apples, as they afford such quantities of cyder, that it is the common drink all over the county: a few years ago, when the smooth cyder was preferred to the rough, it was generally esteemed the best in England; and since the rough cyder has been preferred to the smooth, a great quantity of rough cyder has been made here.

It is worth while to take notice of the method of husbandry in that part of the county next to Radnorshire. They there water their pasture and meadow-ground with every little brook that will serve their purpose, diverting the course of the stream, and causing it to run round, or across the ground they would improve. Early in the spring, they let out the water of the new channel upon one part of the field one day, and upon another the next, till they have watered the whole. The difference

difference of the watered land from the reſt is very remarkable, the graſs being there freſh and green, while in the other parts, it appears as in winter.

Herefordſhire affords plenty of game, but the deer are generally a year older before they grow fat than in the ſouth, which is perhaps owing to the ſeverity of the winters, and the longer continuance of the ſnow upon the hills, for moſt of the parks ſtand high. Here is great plenty of woodcocks, and other wild fowl.

With reſpect to the diviſions of Herefordſhire, it contains eleven hundreds, in which are one city, and ſeven market towns, viz. the city of Hereford, Bromyard, Leominſter, Ledbury, Kington, Pembridge, Weobley and Roſſe. It is in the province of Canterbury, and dioceſe of Hereford, and includes a hundred and ſeventy-ſix pariſhes, about fifteen thouſand houſes, and ninety-five thouſand ſix hundred inhabitants. It ſends eight members to parliament, two for the county, two for the city of Hereford, two for the borough of Leominſter, and two for that of Weobley.

We ſhall enter this county by the road which leads from Worceſter to Hereford. Near this road, on entering this county, is the village of COLWALL, where a poor cottager found a coronet, adorned with diamonds; but to whom it belonged is not known. He, however, ſold it to a goldſmith in Gloceſter for 31 l. who ſold it again to a jeweller in London for 250 l. and the jeweller is ſaid to have ſold it for no leſs than 1500 l. profit.

About two miles to the ſouth-weſt of this village is LEDBURY, which ſtands at the ſouth end of a ridge of mountains called Malvern-hills, on

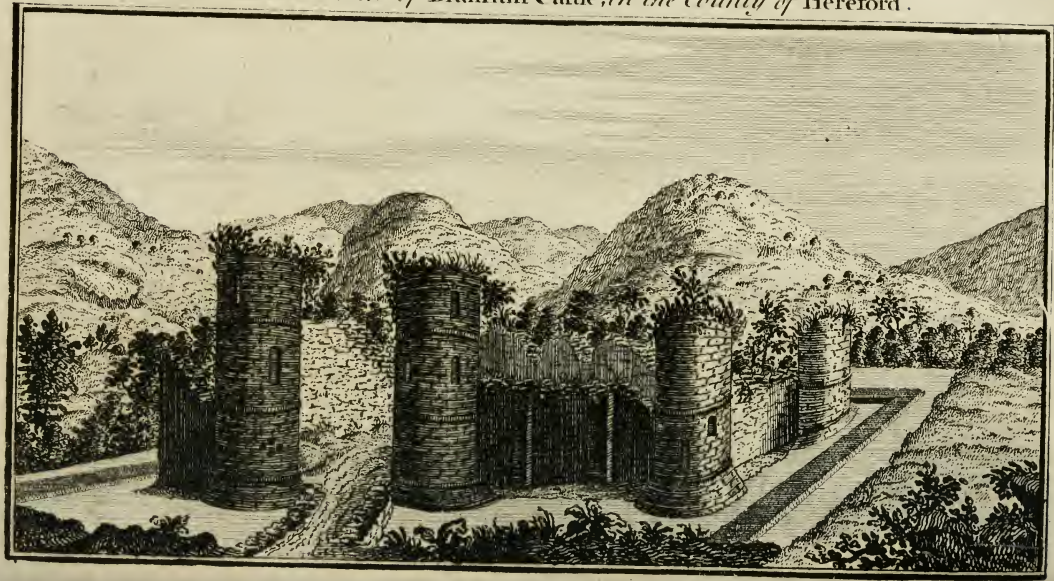
the eaſt ſide of the county; fourteen miles eaſt of Hereford, and a hundred and eighteen weſt-north-weſt of London. It is ſeated in rich clayey ground, and is a well built town, chiefly inhabited by clothiers. It has a free-ſchool, and a charity-ſchool, with one of the moſt conſiderable markets in the county, which is held on Tueſdays, for corn, cattle and proviſions; and has alſo five fairs, which are kept on Monday before Eaſter, and on May 12, for horned cattle and cheeſe; on the 22d of June, for horned cattle, cheeſe and wool; on the 2d of October, for horned cattle, hops, cheeſe and pigs; and on the Monday before the 21ſt of December, for horned cattle, cheeſe, and fat hogs. The rectory of this town was anciently divided into ſeveral prebends; but about the year 1400, a college for a maſter and eight ſecular prieſts was founded in the pariſh church by John Trevenant, biſhop of Hereford.

At Ledbury was alſo an hoſpital for a maſter, rector or prior, and ſeveral poor brothers and ſiſters, built by Hugh Foliot, biſhop of Hereford, in the year 1232, and dedicated to St. Catharine; whoſe yearly revenues, at the ſuppreſſion, amounted to 22 l. 5 s. clear. It ſtill exiſts, it being refounded by queen Elizabeth, in the year 1580, for a maſter, who is appointed by the dean and chapter of Hereford, ſeven poor widowers, and three poor widows, who are nominated by the maſter; and are each allowed 6 l. 13 s. 4 d. a year, beſides cloaths and fire.

At a ſmall diſtance from hence is BRAMSTILL caſtle, which ſtands in a ſolitary place, at the foot of the weſt ſide of Malvern-hills. It is a quadrangular oblong, encompaſſed by a double ditch of the ſame form, and appears by ſeveral circumſtances in the remains themſelves, as well

as

The South West View of Bramstill Castle, *in the County of* Hereford.



Vol. III. pa. 235.

as by other concurring tokens to be a place of very great antiquity, tho' we ſhall not pretend to determine that it is Roman. Of this ſtructure we have given an engraved view. There has been lately diſcovered in it a very remarkable cavern. Thomas Rede, Eſq; is the preſent proprietor thereof.

On returning into the road to HEREFORD, we proceed to that city, the name of which is purely Saxon, ſignifying the ford of an army, which perfectly agrees with its ſituation, it ſtanding on the Wye, which falls into the Severn, and forms part of the barrier between England and Wales. As the two nations were almoſt conſtantly at war with each other, this town was generally the head quarters of ſuch Saxon or Engliſh forces as were ſtationed in the county; and here both armies probably forded the river when they paſſed out of England into Wales, or out of Wales into England. Some, however, have ſuppoſed the name of Hereford to have been derived from Ereinuc, the ancient Britiſh name of the county; and others have imagined, that both the Britiſh and Saxon names were derived from Ariconium, an ancient town near this place, mentioned by Antoninus, which is ſaid to have been deſtroyed by an earthquake, and Hereford to have been built in its room.

Hereford is ſituated thirty miles weſt-north-weſt of Gloceſter, twenty-four weſt-ſouth-weſt of Worceſter, and one hundred and thirty weſt-north-weſt of London, and is thought by ſome to have been founded by king Edward the Elder, tho' others ſuppoſe, that it aroſe about the time when the Saxon Haptarchy was at its height, and firſt became conſiderable about the year 825, on account of a church built here by Milfrid, king of the Mercians, to the memory of Ethelbert, king of the

East-Angles, who was murdered by the queen of king Offa, while courting their daughter. This church soon after became a cathedral, and Hereford was made the see of a bishop; but in the reign of Edward the Confessor, Griffin, prince of South Wales, sacked the city, destroyed the cathedral, and carried the bishop away prisoner. Hence this city was at the Norman invasion in ruins, and there were not above one hundred and three men within the city and suburbs; the conqueror, however, rebuilt both the city and cathedral, and also erected a castle, which, though now in ruins, Leland says, was in his time the fairest, largest, and strongest in England. It was surrounded by a double wall, very high, firm, and full of great towers; and where the river did not encompass it, was defended by a moat filled with water. Dr. Stukeley informs us, that there is still a very lofty artificial keep, in which was a well faced with good stone; and by the side of the ditch, is a spring consecrated to St. Ethelbert, and a handsome old stone arch erected over it.

This city, before the civil wars, had six churches, besides the cathedral; but two of them were demolished in those troublesome times. The cathedral which we have already said was destroyed and rebuilt in the reign of William the Conqueror, had several additions made to it by the succeeding bishops; so that it is at present a magnificent Gothic structure, adorned with several ancient monuments; and in the north wing is the shrine of Cantilupe, who is also painted on the wall. It has a bishop, a dean, a chancellor, sixteen canons, twenty-seven prebendaries, a chanter, a treasurer, and twelve vicars choral, with deacons, choristers, and other officers. The bishop has a palace called the castle, which has nothing

nothing extraordinary, except its pleaſant ſituation; and the other dignitaries have houſes, in a place called the Cloſe; the vicars and choriſters live in a college, in a collegiate or academical way.

The city, tho' large, is but thinly inhabited, it having no conſiderable trade to enrich it; for the only manufacture is leather gloves. The trading companies have, however, their diſtinct halls, laws, and privileges; and here are held the aſſizes, quarter ſeſſions, and county-courts. The city is governed by a mayor and twelve aldermen, a high ſteward, a deputy ſteward, a recorder, and town-clerk, with thirty-one common-councilmen, among whom are reckoned the mayor and five of the aldermen, who are juſtices of the peace; the mayor has his ſword-bearer and four ſerjeants at mace. The chapter-houſe was a moſt beautiful ſtructure, but was demoliſhed in the civil wars. Between the cathedral and the biſhop's palace, is a venerable pile of building, entirely of ſtone, not excepting the roof. It conſiſts of two chapels, one above the other, beſides the portico and choir. The ground plot is a perfect ſquare, with four pillars in the middle, with arches every way; and over theſe pillars is a cupola, in the form of an octagon, and on the walls have been a variety of paintings. The portico is very grand, and ſeems to be an imitation of the works of the Romans, it conſiſting of many arches retiring inwards, and two pillars on each ſide, formed of ſingle ſtones. The lowermoſt chapel, whoſe entrance is by a few ſteps under ground, is dedicated to St. Catharine, as the upper is to St. Cuthbert, which had anciently prebendaries, who were afterwards tranſlated to the church of St. Peter. This ſtructure was built by Walter de Lacy in the reign of William the Conqueror, and endowed by

him

him with several estates. This collegiate church, with all the revenues belonging to it, being given in the year 1101, by Hugh de Lacy, the son of Walter, to the abbey of St. Peter at Gloucester, the provost and secular canons were changed into a prior and Benedictine monks, who were removed into the east suburb without Bishopsgate, where Robert Betun, bishop of Hereford, gave them ground, on which was erected the monastery of St. Peter, St. Paul, and St. Guthlac, which was valued, at the dissolution, at 121 l. 3 s. a year.

A small river that appears to have no name, running by the north side of the city, falls on the east side of it into the Wye, which flows by the south side; whence, on every side but the west, it is surrounded by rivers. It often suffers by the swell of the Wye, over which it has a good stone bridge of eight arches. Here is an hospital founded in the reign of queen Elizabeth, and well endowed for twelve poor people; and two charity-schools, one for sixty boys, and the other for forty girls, who are taught and cloathed by subscription. This city gives the title of viscount to the honourable family of Devereux. It has three markets, held on Wednesdays, Fridays, and Saturdays; and five fairs, which are kept on the Tuesday after Candlemas-day, for horned cattle, horses, and hops; on Wednesday in Easter-week, for horned cattle and horses; on the 19th of May, for toys; on the 1st of July, for horned cattle and wool; and on the 20th of October, for horned cattle, cheese, and Welsh butter.

There was anciently several religious houses in the suburbs, particularly without the north gate was an hospital of St. John, which, according to Leland, was for some time a house of templars; but when he wrote, was an alms-house, with a chapel.

chapel. Without Frere gate in Hereford was a college of grey friars, founded by Sir William Pembrugge, in the reign of Edward the Firſt, and dedicated to St. Guthlac, the revenues of which were valued, at the diſſolution, at 121 l. 3 s. 3 d. a year. In the ſuburb, without St. Andrew's, or St. Owen's gate, was a chapel of St. Giles, which once had friars of Griſey, or Savignian monks, and then templars. King Richard gave this chapel to the town, upon which it was made an hoſpital. The friars, preachers, came hither firſt about the year 1280, and ſet up a little oratory at Portfield in the ingate ſuburb, where Sir John Daniel, or Deinvile, knight, began a new priory and church for them, which was finiſhed by king Edward the Third. There was alſo in the ſame ſuburb a chapel of St. Giles, firſt founded for Lazers, but afterwards converted to the uſe of other poor, of which the burgeſſes are patrons. In ſhort, there was an hoſpital near the bridge over the Wye in Hereford, as early as the year 1226; and it appears from ancient records, that there was a priory in this city, called the hoſpital of St. Thomas.

At HOME LACY upon the river Wye, about five miles ſouth-eaſt of Hereford, William Fitzwain founded an abbey in the beginning of the reign of king Henry the Third, for premonſtratenſian canons, and dedicated it to the Virgin Mary and St. Thomas à Becket. It was endowed with lands in the neighbouring country, but its revenues at the ſuppreſſion do not appear.

Within a mile of Hereford is a Roman camp, called Oyſter-hill, which ſome have ſuppoſed took its name from Oſtorius, who was the Roman general, when the army encamped here. And at EATON WALL, a village upon the Wye, two miles

miles eaſt of Hereford, is a camp with ſingle works, which include near forty acres.

At KILPECKE, to the ſouth of Hereford, was a church dedicated to St. David, given by Hugh, the ſon of William the Norman, (whoſe family afterwards aſſumed the name of Kilpecke) to St. Peter's abbey at Gloceſter, to which it became a cell in 1134, and thus continued till the time of Thomas Spoffard biſhop of Hereford, in the middle of the fifteenth century, when it was altogether united to Gloceſter.

At HAROLD'S EWIAS, a village ſituated on the river Dover, which runs thro' the Golden Vale, ſix miles ſouth-weſt of Kilpecke, was a church dedicated to St. Michael, which, in the year 1100, was given by Harold, lord of Ewias, to the abbey of St. Peter in Gloceſter, upon condition that they ſhould ſettle here a prior, and ſmall convent of black monks. This ſettlement was accordingly made, but the revenues falling ſhort, it was in 1358 incorporated with the great abbey of Gloceſter.

At DOWRE, near Harold's Ewias, Robert de Ewias, youngeſt ſon to Harold, in the reign of king Stephen, built an abbey of white monks, dedicated to the Virgin Mary, which at the diſſolution conſiſted of an abbot, and eight religious, and was valued at 101 l. 5 s. a year.

The Golden Vale is watered by the river Doyer, and is ſo called from its richneſs and fertility, for in the ſpring it is ſo ſtrewed with flowers, that it appears to be gilded. There are hills on each ſide covered with woods, and under them on each hand are corn fields, and delightful meadows.

About ſix miles to the north-weſt of Hereford is KENCHESTER, a village thought to be the ancient Roman town, called Ariconium, from the ruins of which Hereford is ſuppoſed to have been built. Two Roman roads croſs each other at this place,

place, one of which is called Portway, runs from Bualt in Radnorſhire, and extends to Worceſter; the other comes from the ſouth, and paſſes the river Wye at Eaton, where there is a Roman camp and a bridge, from whence it proceeds to Kencheſter, and ſo northwards to Stratford. There are no remains of the ancient ſplendor of this city, but part of a temple, with a niche five feet high and three broad within, built of Roman brick, ſtone, and exceeding hard mortar. There are many large foundations near it, and not many years ago, a very fine moſaic floor was found entire. There was a bath likewiſe found by Sir John Hoſkins, about ſeven feet ſquare, and the pipes of brick were entire. The walls may very eaſily be traced, ſome of the ſtones being left every where, though overgrown with hedges and timber trees. The ſite of the place is a ſmall eminence, of a ſquariſh form, about which have been found many Roman coins and other antiquities. This village is ſheltered towards the north by a prodigious mountain, that is very ſteep, and crowned with a vaſt camp, which encompaſſes the top entirely. Thoſe that will be at the pains to climb up to the ſummit, will have an extenſive proſpect, as far as St. Michael's mount in Monmouthſhire.

At BROCKHAMPTON, eight miles ſouth-eaſt of Hereford, is a piece of ground called Capeller-hills, where is a large ſquare camp double trenched, called Wobury, near half a mile long, tho' it is but narrow.

Sixteen miles ſouth-weſt of Hereford is Ross, which is commodiouſly ſeated, in a fertile ſoil on the banks of the river Wye, at the diſtance of one hundred and ſeventeen miles weſt-north-weſt of London. It is a well built, populous place, chiefly conſiſting of two ſtreets, each about half a mile

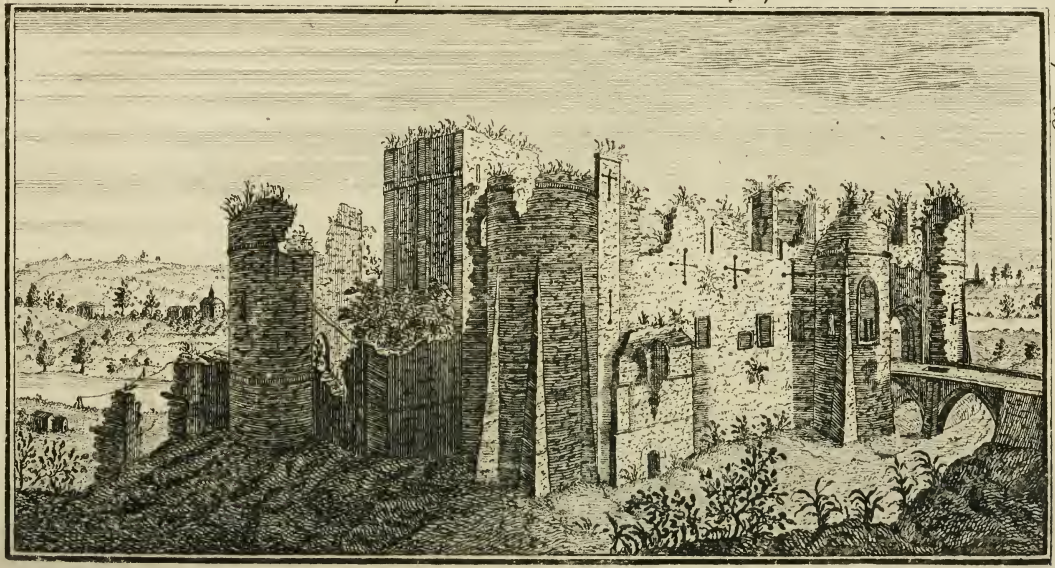
mile long, croſſing each other in the middle. Here are two charity-ſchools, one for thirty boys, the other for twenty girls, who are taught and cloathed by ſubſcription. This town is famous for its cyder, and in Camden's time, it had a conſiderable manufacture of hardware. It is at preſent much frequented on account of its market and fairs, which are well ſtocked with cattle and other proviſions. Its market is held on Thurſdays, and its fairs on Holy Thurſday, for horned cattle and ſheep; on the 13th of June, for horned cattle and cheeſe; on the 20th of July, for horned cattle, ſheep, horſes and wool; on the 10th of October, for horned cattle, cheeſe, and butter; and on the 11th of December, for horned cattle and pigs.

WILTON, about a mile north-weſt of Roſs, is remarkable for an ancient caſtle belonging to the family of the Greys. According to ſome authors, it was built by Hugh Longchamp; but we are informed by Mr. Camden, that king John gave Wilton, with the caſtle, to Henry Longchamp, who was ſheriff of this county in the reign of Richard the Firſt. It ſtood on the top of a hill, but is now in ruins.

Three miles ſouth of Roſs is GOODRICH Caſtle, which is pleaſantly ſeated on the river Wye, and was given by king John to William Marſhal, lord Marſhal. It was afterwards the principal ſeat of the Talbots, earls of Shrewſbury, but is now in poſſeſſion of the duke of Kent, the noble family of the Greys having ever ſince the reign of Edward the Firſt been lords of Wilton, and other eſtates in its neighbourhood. A great part of the walls are ſtill ſtanding, and the gatehouſe is almoſt entire. It appears to have been a very ſtrong, ſpacious caſtle, built after the ancient manner. Of

the

The South East View of Goodrick Castle, *in the County of* Hereford.



Vol. III. pa. 233.

the ruins of this ſtructure we have given a view, for the ſatisfaction of the curious reader.

At FLANESFORD, a village upon the Wye, a little to the ſouth of Roſs, Richard Talbot, lord of Caſtle Goodrich, in the year 1347, built and endowed a ſmall priory of black canons, and dedicated it to St. John Baptiſt: this was valued at the diſſolution at 14 l. 8 s. 9 d. a year.

From Hereford a road extends north-eaſt to BROMYARD, a ſmall town on the road from Worceſter to Leominſter, ſituated in a country full of orchards near the river Frome, one hundred and twenty-four miles from London. It is a ſmall, obſcure town, half a mile in length, and has a market on Wedneſdays, with five fairs, held on the Thurſday before the 25th of March, for horſes and horned cattle; on the 3d of May; on Whitſun Monday, the Thurſday before the 25th of July, and on the Thurſday before the 29th of October, for horned cattle and ſheep. In the church of Bromyard were three canons or prebendaries, ſo early as the fifty-third year of king Henry the Third. The biſhop of Hereford nominated to this charity, and the church was frequently called a collegiate church or college.

Eight miles north of Hereford is HAMPTON COURT, the ſeat of the laſt earl of Coningſby. It was built by Henry Bolingbroke, duke of Lancaſter, afterwards king Henry the Fourth, in the form of a caſtle, and is ſituated in a valley on the eaſt ſide of a rapid river, at the foot of a hill called Brynmaur. The gardens are very pleaſant, terminated by vaſt woods, covering all the ſloping ſide of the hill, and there is plenty of water on all ſides of the houſe, for fountains, baſons, and canals. The park, which is very fine, is eight miles in circumference, and contains about twelve hundred head of deer. The proſpects on one ſide

reach

reach into Wiltſhire, and on the other to the Welch mountains. There are here lawns, groves, canals, hills, and plains; particularly a piece of water three quarters of a mile in length, encloſed between two great woods, and the dam, which is made over a valley, is ſaid to have coſt 800*l*. and to have been finiſhed in a fortnight by two hundred hands. A new river is cut quite thro' the park, the channel of which is, for a conſiderable extent, hewn out of the rock, and ſerves to enrich a tract of land that was before barren. Here are laid out new gardens and canals, warrens, decoys, ſheep-walks, and paſtures for cattle, which ſupply the houſe with conveniences and neceſſaries, without having recourſe to a market.

To the north of this park is LEOMINSTER, or LEMSTER, which is fourteen miles north of Hereford, ſixty-five north of Briſtol, eleven ſouth of Ludlow, forty-two ſouth of Shrewſbury, twenty-three weſt of Worceſter, and one hundred and thirty-ſix weſt-north-weſt of London. It is ſaid to have been originally called Monaſterium Leonis, from a monaſtery built in that town by king Merwald, after he had ſeen a lion in a viſion. Others, however, ſuppoſe its preſent name to be a corruption of Llan Lieni, which, they ſay, it received from the ancient Britons, in whoſe language it ſignifies a church of nuns. Others again derive Lemſter from Linum, the Latin name of flax, the country about it producing the beſt kind of that valuable plant. This is a large, ancient, populous, and pleaſant town, ſeated in a rich ſoil, on the banks of the river Lug, over which it has ſeveral bridges. The parts about it are noted for exceeding fine wool, and the inhabitants carry on a briſk trade in the woollen manufacture, and alſo in hats, leather, and ſeveral other articles; and the rivers about the town turn ſeveral mills, which

are

are ſubſervient to many uſeful occupations. The ſoil is ſaid to be ſo extremely fertile, that trees and all kinds of vegetables flouriſh in an amazing manner; thus we are told, that the leaves of the dock are as large as an ordinary tea-table, and thoſe of comfrey as long as a man's arm. It was incorporated by queen Mary, and is governed by a high-ſteward, a bailiff, a recorder, twelve capital burgeſſes, out of whom a bailiff is choſen, and a town clerk. It has a large beautiful church, and an alms-houſe, founded by the widow of a perſon, who is ſaid to have given away the greateſt part of his eſtate during his life-time, and afterwards to have been treated with diſreſpect, which is probably alluded to by the figure of a man, in a niche over the entrance of the houſe, holding up a hatchet, underneath which are the following lines.

" *Let him that gives his goods before he is dead*
" *Take this hatchet, and cut off his head.*"

At the fairs of this town are ſold a great number of black cattle and horſes, and its trade for wool was ſo conſiderable at its market, which was held on Thurſday, the ſame day in which the market at Hereford and Worceſter were kept, that thoſe cities petitioned to have the day changed, complaining of their loſs of trade; upon which the market-day at Leominſter was altered to Friday, ſince which time its trade has greatly decreaſed. This town has alſo the beſt wheat, barley, wool, and flax in England. It has five fairs, held on the 13th of February, the Tueſday after Midlent-Sunday, and May 13, for horned cattle and horſes; on the 10th of July, for horned cattle, horſes, wool and Welch butter; and on November 8, for horned cattle, hops, and butter.

Mer-

Merwald, king of the weſtern part of Mercia, built a monaſtery at Leominſter, about the year 660, and dedicated it to St. Peter, but it was deſtroyed in the Daniſh wars. Afterwards here was a college of prebendaries, and then an abbey of nuns, who were all diſperſed, and moſt of their lands poſſeſſed by laymen long before the year 1125, when king Henry the Firſt gave the abbey, with every thing belonging to it, to the new abbey he had founded at Reading in Berkſhire, to which it became a cell. In 1536 it was endowed with the annual revenue of 660 l. 16 s. 8 d. out of which was paid to Reading, and in other reprizes, the value of 448 l. 8 s. 8 d. a year.

On a hill, in the neighbourhood of Leominſter, are the ruins of a palace, now called COMFOR caſtle. And in a park belonging to Croft caſtle, on the north-weſt of Leominſter, is a large camp with two ditches.

Eight miles north of Leominſter is RICHARD's caſtle, which took its name from Richard, ſurnamed Scroop, to whom it belonged in the reign of king Edward the Confeſſor. It ſtands, according to Leland, upon the top of a very rocky hill, which, in his time, was well wooded, but the keep, the walls, and the towers, were then going to ruin. Beneath the caſtle is a ſpring, called Bone Well, in which a great quantity of ſmall bones are conſtantly found, and of which there is a ſupply in a very ſhort time after it is cleared of them. Some imagine theſe to be the bones of ſome ſmall fiſh, and others the bones of frogs; however, it is not likely to be either, for neither fiſh nor frogs are found in it; but whence or how they come hither, it is not eaſy to conjecture.

Twelve miles ſouth-weſt of Hereford is WEOBLEY, or WEBLEY, a ſmall town, one hundred and thirty miles from London. This is an ancient

borough

borough by prescription, but the market, which is kept on Tuesdays, is very small. Here are two charity-schools, one for twenty boys, and another for girls, supported by subscription; and in the reign of king Stephen there was a castle here, but at what time it was demolished is not said. This town sends two members to parliament, and has been very famous for its ale. It has two fairs, the first on Holy Thursday, for horned cattle and horses; and the other three weeks after, for horned cattle, horses, and coarse linen cloth.

At WORMSLEY, situated south-east of Weobley, was a priory of black canons, founded about the reign of king John, by Gilbert Tolbot. They were of the order of St. Victor, and the priory was dedicated to St. Leonard. It had seven canons at the dissolution, and was endowed with the annual revenue of 83l. 10s.

Four miles north of Webley, in the road from Hereford, is PEMBRIDGE, a small town, seated on the river Arrow, twenty-six miles south-east of Montgomery, and a hundred and thirty west-north-west of London. It has a manufacture of woollen cloth, and a market on Tuesdays, with two fairs, the first on the 12th of May, and the other on the 22d of November, for horned cattle.

Near Pembridge were the manor and church of LENA, or MONKLAND, which, in the reign of William Rufus, was given to the Benedictine monks of St. Peter's abbey, at Castellione, or Conches, in Normandy, to which it became a cell, but afterwards it was given to the Carthusians at Coventry.

At TITLEY, a village on the river Arrow, to the north-west of Pembridge, was a cell to the abbey of Tyrone in France.

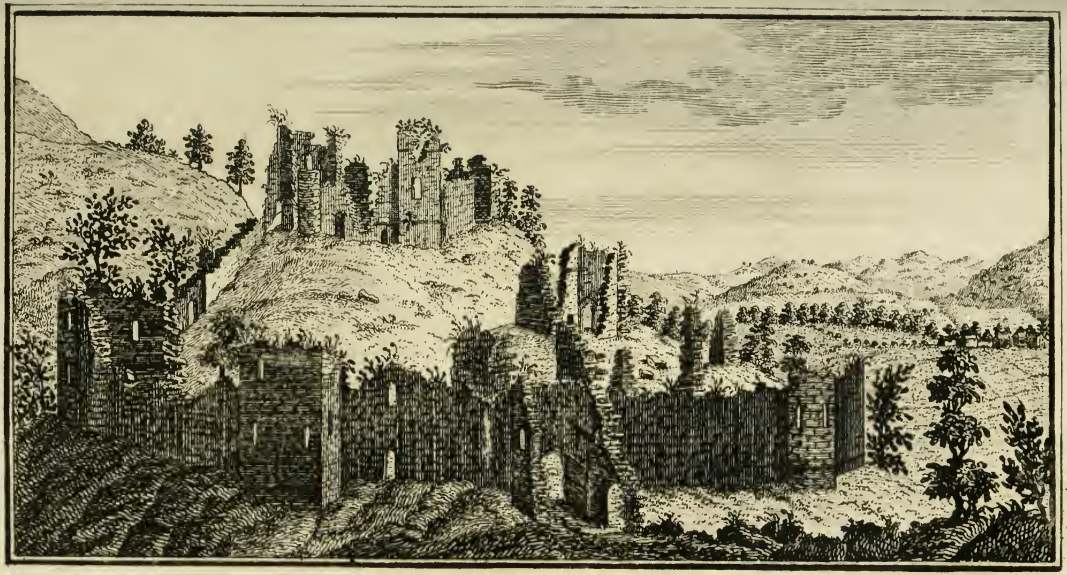
WIGMORE, a village about seven miles to the northward of Pembridge, had a small college

of

of three prebendaries, founded in the parish church, in the year 1100; and there are here two fairs, one on the 25th of April, and the other on the 25th of July, for horned cattle, horses and sheep. This place was formerly fortified with a castle, the ruins of which are still remaining, and there is enough of them to shew, that it was a very large and spacious structure; of these ruins we have a given a view for the satisfaction of the curious reader.

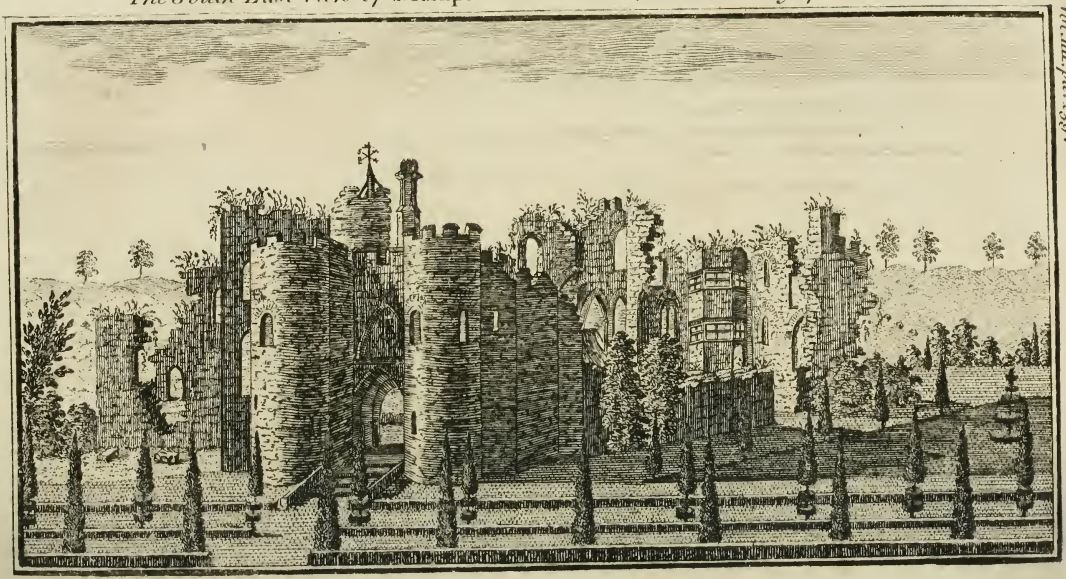
This castle was built by William Fitz Osborn, earl of Hereford, and lord of Wight; but the ground belonged at that time, with the manor, to Randulph or Ralph (de Mortuo Mari or) Mortimer, one of king William the Conqueror's captains and knights, who came from Normandy with him. Hugh de Mortimer, his son, founded and endowed an adjacent priory, about the year 1179. In the absence of Ralph, the grandson of Hugh, this was plundered by the Welch, and most of the building burnt, except the church, but it was again restored by the family. The Mortimers of Wigmore were of great dignity and distinction. Edmund de Mortimer, earl of March, married Philippa, only daughter and heiress of Lionel, duke of Clarence, second son of king Edward the Third, after which he was lord lieutenant of Ireland, where he died. His body was brought over and buried in the church of this monastery. It came thus into the crown, by whom it was, in process of time, given to the noble family of Harley, who are barons of Wigmore, earls of Oxford and Mortimer.

At LIMBROOK, near Wigmore, was a cell to Avency in Normandy; and about a quarter of a mile from the banks of the river Lug in this place, a priory of nuns of the order of St. Austin was founded by one of the Mortimers, in the reign of Richard



The South View of Wigmore Caſtle, *in the County of* Hereford.

The South East View of Brompton Brion Castle, *in the County of* Hereford.



Richard the Firſt, which continued till the general ſuppreſſion, when it had ſix nuns, and yet its revenue was only valued at 22 l. 7 s. 8 d. a year.

Brompton Brion, a village about five miles north-weſt of Wigmore, on the north-weſt borders of the county, is famous for its caſtle, which for ſome ages belonged to a family of diſtinction, called Brion de Brompton, and continued in their poſſeſſion till the reign of king Edward the Third, when Robert de Harley, marrying the daughter and heireſs of Sir Brion de Brompton, it came into the poſſeſſion of that noble family. It is at preſent in the poſſeſſion of Edward, earl of Oxford and Mortimer, baron Harley of Wigmore. The remains are extremely magnificent, and for the ſatisfaction of the curious reader, we have given a view of them. The gatehouſe is ſtill entire, and the other parts ſhew, that it has been very ſtrong and ſpacious. At this village is a fair on the 22d of June, for horned cattle, ſheep and wool.

About two miles to the north-eaſt is Lantwarden, where there is ſaid to be a perfect Roman camp. This is a ſingle ſquare work, with four ports; and about a quarter of a mile from thence are two barrows; one of which being opened, there were found in it many coals, and ſome pieces of burnt bones; and in the middle was an urn about two feet and a half high, full of coals, burnt bones and aſhes. About a mile from Brompton Brion, on the other ſide the river Bardfield, was a Britiſh camp, now covered with oaks.

Keynton, or Kington, is ſeated on the river Arrow, eight miles north of Pembridge, twenty weſt-north-weſt of Hereford, and a hundred and thirty-eight weſt-north-weſt of London. It is a pretty large well built town, chiefly inhabited by clothiers, who carry on a conſiderable trade in narrow

narrow cloths. It has a free-ſchool, and a charity-ſchool; with a large market on Wedneſdays, eſteemed one of the beſt in the county for corn, cattle, proviſions, and various commodities: it has alſo four fairs, which are held on the Wedneſday before Eaſter, on Whit-Monday, the 2d of Auguſt, and the 4th of September, for cattle, and all ſorts of proviſions.

About three miles ſouth-eaſt of Keynton is HUNTINGTON, a village which gives name to the hundred, and has two fairs, one on the 28th of June, and the other on the 13th of November, for horned cattle, ſheep, lambs and horſes.

About eleven miles to the ſouthward of Keynton, and twenty-four to the weſtward of Hereford, is CLIFFORD, a village ſeated on the river Wye, on the borders of Radnorſhire, where was a priory of Cluniac monks, dedicated to the Virgin Mary, and founded by Simon Fitz Richard Fitz Ponce, in the reign of Henry the Firſt. This priory was ſubordinate to a monaſtery at Lewis in Suſſex, and continued till the ſuppreſſion, when it was valued by Dugdale, at 57 l. 7 s. a year; but by Speed, at 75 l.

At DOWARD, in the pariſh of Whitchurch, nineteen miles ſouth of Hereford, and three miles north of Monmouth, is a pretty high hill, on the top of which are the remains of ſome ancient fortifications, the ditches of which are ſtill viſible; and in digging here for iron-ore and lime-ſtone, broad arrow heads have been found; alſo the bones of a perſon of a gigantic ſize were diſcovered in a place that ſeemed to have been arched over. Here was a Ciſtercian abbey founded by Robert, earl of Ferrers, and dedicated to the Virgin Mary. It had ſeveral benefactors, and was valued at the ſuppreſſion at 101 l. a year, by Dugdale; but by Speed, at 118 l.

In

In the foreſt of ACORNBURY, three miles ſouth of Hereford, a nunnery was founded by Margery, the wife of Walter de Lacy, and dedicated to the Holy Croſs. In this houſe was a prioreſs, and ſeven nuns of the order of St. Auſtin, whoſe revenue at the ſuppreſſion was 67 l. 13 s. a year.

In this county were born the following great men.

George lord Carpenter, baron Carpenter, of Killaghy in Ireland, was deſcended of an ancient family in Herefordſhire, and born at Pitchers Ocull in that county, on the 10th of February, 1657. He entered early into the army. His firſt poſt in it was that of quarter-maſter to a regiment of horſe; and paſſing gradually through all the commiſſions of cornet, lieutenant, and captain, he was at length advanced to a lieutenant colonel. He afterwards purchaſed the king's own regiment of dragoons, the command of which he retained till his death. He ſerved with reputation and honour in all queen Anne's wars; in the courſe of which he roſe to the rank firſt of a brigadier-general, afterwards of major-general, and finally, to that of lieutenant-general. He had a conſiderable ſhare in the battles of Almanza, Almenara, and Brihuega, in the laſt of which he was dangerouſly wounded. In the rebellion of 1715, he obliged the rebels at Preſton to ſurrender at diſcretion; and, in the year 1719, was created baron Carpenter, of Killaghy, in the county of Kilkenny, in the kingdom of Ireland. He died February the 10th, 1732, and was interred at Owſelbury in Hampſhire.

Robert Devereux, earl of Eſſex, a gallant ſoldier, and a great favourite of queen Elizabeth, was the ſon of Walter Devereux, earl of Eſſex, and born at Nethewood in Herefordſhire, November

the 10th, 1567. He had his education in Trinity college, Cambridge, under the care of Dr. Whitgift, afterwards archbishop of Canterbury. His first appearance at court, at least as a candidate for royal favour, was in the 17th year of his age; when, by the advantage of a fine person, and the charms of an agreeable behaviour, he soon attracted her majesty's notice. In 1686, he accompanied his step-father, the earl of Leicester, to Holland, where he distinguished himself so much in the battle of Zutphen, that he was knighted upon the field. During the terror of the Spanish invasion, he was appointed general of horse, the earl of Leicester acting as commander in chief of the army. Such was his love of military glory, that, when an expedition was undertaken for restoring Don Antonio to the crown of Portugal, Essex, in direct contradiction to her majesty's orders, engaged in the enterprize. He recovered, however, the queen's good graces; commanded the forces that were sent to the assistance of king Henry the Fourth of France; reduced, in 1696, the town of Cadiz; and, the year following, was created earl-marshal of England. But notwithstanding the great favours he had received from his sovereign, and the profound respect he was wont to shew her upon most occasions, such was his lofty spirit, that he could not bear an affront even from her; for when the queen one day, transported by her passion, gave him a box on the ear, Essex, prompted, as it were, by a kind of natural instinct, clapped his hand upon his sword, and swore, that he would not bear such treatment, were it from Henry the Eighth himself. Even after this violent breach, he found means to re-establish his interest, which, however, he was not able long to maintain. For having, in 1598, gone over to Ireland, in order to subdue the great rebel

rebel Tyrone, and failing in that enterprize, he again fell into diſgrace; and though he ſeemed for ſome time to be in a fair way of recovering her majeſty's favour; yet actuated by his own reſtleſs ſpirit, and farther irritated by the indignities offered to him by his enemies, he attempted to raiſe an inſurrection; when, being ſeized in his own houſe, he was tried, condemned, and executed, on the 25th of February, 1601. The queen's grief, for his death, it is ſaid, contributed greatly to haſten her own end.

HERTFORDSHIRE.

HERTFORDSHIRE, or HARTFORDSHIRE, is an inland county, bounded on the north by Cambridgeſhire and Bedfordſhire; on the eaſt by Eſſex; on the ſouth by Middleſex; and on the weſt by Buckinghamſhire and Bedfordſhire, extending thirty-three miles in length from eaſt to weſt; about thirty miles in breadth from north to ſouth, and a hundred and thirty in circumference.

In the time of the Romans, this county was partly inhabited by the Trinobantes, partly by the Cattieuchlani, and partly by the Caſſii, a people, from whom the diſtrict, at preſent called Caiſho hundred, in the ſouth-weſt diviſion of the county, derives its name, and through it paſſed three military ways. During the Saxon heptarchy, the Mercians, Eaſt Saxons, and kings of Kent, divided it among them, and did all in their power to deſtroy every veſtige of antiquity, that future ages might be unable to diſcover, that this country had been poſſeſſed by any other nation; yet notwithſtanding this, there are ſtill here ſeveral remains of antiquity. When the heptarchy was reduced to one kingdom by king Egbert, who was the firſt Engliſh monarch, he divided the whole nation into thirty-five counties, and called this Hertfordſhire, from Hertford its principal town. After the Danes had ravaged England, king Alfred found it neceſſary to divide the counties into hundreds, and ordered that they ſhould keep

keep continual watch and ward to prevent robberies; and if any robbery was committed by daylight, the hundred was appointed to pay it, which cuſtom is continued to this day.

This county is well watered with rivers and brooks, the principal of which are the Lee, or Lea, the Stort, the Coln, the Ver, and the New River. We have already deſcribed the courſe of the Lee, in our account of Eſſex. The Stort riſes in the north-eaſt part of the county, and paſſing by biſhop Stortford, ſeparates the counties of Hertford and Eſſex, and falls into the river Lee at a ſmall diſtance from Haddeſdon.

The Coln riſes near Biſhops Hatfield, and running ſouth-weſt, paſſes by Watford; and ſoon after running almoſt directly ſouth, ſeparates Buckinghamſhire from Middleſex, and diſcharges itſelf into the Thames, near Staines.

The river Ver, or More, riſes in the weſt part of the county, and running ſouth-eaſt, paſſes by St. Alban's; and then running due ſouth, falls into the Coln.

The New River has its ſource near Ware in this county, and is conveyed in an artificial channel, not more than ten feet wide, to London. This channel is cut thro' ſeveral riſing grounds; and though the diſtance of its ſource from London is but twenty miles, Sir Hugh Middleton, who performed the important ſervice to the city, of bringing this river to it, in order to avoid the eminences and vallies in the way, was obliged to make it run a courſe of almoſt thirty-nine miles, and to carry it over two vallies, in long wooden troughs, lined with lead, one of theſe, which is at Buthill, is ſix hundred and ſixty feet in length, and thirty in height; under which, for the paſſage of the land-waters, is an arch ſo capacious, as to admit under it the largeſt waggon laden

with hay or ſtraw; the other near Highbury, is four hundred and ſixty-two feet long, and ſeventeen in height, where it is raiſed along the top of high artificial banks, and at the bottom of the hollow, ſupported by poles, ſo that any perſon may walk under it; in ſhort, over and under this river, which ſometimes riſes thus high, and at others is conveyed under ground, run ſeveral conſiderable currents of land-waters; and both above and below it, a great number of brooks, rills, and water-courſes, have their paſſage. This river is collected in a large baſon near Iſlington, from whence it is thrown, by an engine worked by horſes, into a baſon in a ſtill higher ſituation. From theſe baſons the water is conveyed, in a great variety of directions, through fifty-eight wooden pipes, to different quarters of the city. In theſe pipes of wood, an almoſt infinite number of leaden pipes are inſerted, and conducted under ground, one to every houſe, in all the ſtreets, lanes, courts, and alleys of that vaſt metropolis. Before this ſtupendous work was accompliſhed, the city was chiefly ſupplied with water by conduits, which were erected in ſuch places as were thought moſt convenient; whence the neighbouring inhabitants fetched it in buckets, or bought it of the water-carriers; but this method being attended with great labour and inconvenience, a ſcheme was projected to conduct the water, now called the New River, to London; and this ſcheme being approved by the government, the city was impowered to carry it into execution, by two acts of parliament, paſſed in the reign of king James the Firſt; but after ſome progreſs in the work, the magiſtrates were diſcouraged by the expence, and gave orders that it ſhould be diſcontinued; but the work given up by this opulent city, on account of the charge being thought too great,

was

was resumed by the above public-spirited gentleman, Mr. Middleton, a goldsmith of London, who, at his own expence, accomplished it in the manner already related, to the great injury of his fortune. He had, however, a small stipend allowed him out of the gain, which afterwards accrued from it, and likewise received the honour of knighthood; several persons were then formed into a corporation, for directing and preserving the works; and this corporation still subsists, by the names of the Governors and Company of the New River.

There are many smaller streams in this county than those we have just mentioned; for which reason Hertfordshire has a great number of meadows, and a variety of river-fish, as carp, salmon, bream, trouts, tench, perch, roches, eels, and gudgeons.

In this county are also two medicinal springs, one at Barnet, and the other at Northall. The waters of both seem to be much of the same nature; that at Northall is a little brackish and bitterish in the throat; but is not so nauseous as that of Epsom. Barnet water is bitterer than the former, but they both will curdle with soap, and let fall a grumous sediment with oil of tartar. With a solution of alum, they will let fall white grumes, which experiment shews they are not alluminous: but with galls, they turn of a wheyish colour; and with logwood, of a deep red. A gallon of Northall water will yield four drams, and twelve grains, of very white sediment; and a gallon of that at Barnet, twenty grains of a brackish bitter sediment. From other experiments it appears, that both these waters contain calcarious nitre, with a small mixture of sea-salt, and a little lime-stone. They are both of a purging

quality; but are not half ſo ſtrong as that at Epſom.

The air of this county is ſo pure and ſalubrious, that it is frequently recommended by phyſicians for the recovery of the ſick; and on this account, as well as its being at no great diſtance from the capital, it is adorned with a great number of very fine ſeats.

The ſoil abounds greatly in chalk, which renders it very fertile; but the vale of Wringtale, which croſſes the northern part of the county, where the ſoil is mixed with white marle, yields the beſt wheat and barley; and the bread and malt made of it are in high eſteem. However, the paſtures are but indifferent; thoſe that are dry, generally producing fern and broom; and the wet, moſs and ruſhes; but by an invention lately put in practice, the wet lands are greatly improved by what is called Buſh draining.

A very ingenious gentleman, who has examined the different methods of huſbandry, practiſed in the ſeveral counties of England, in an excellent work publiſhed on that ſubject, obſerves, that between Barnet and Hatfield, the corn-grounds were far from bearing ſuch crops as he expected. "Two things, ſays he, are very bad, their ditches "and their ploughs, both very material to a "farm. Too many of the hedges are dead ones; "boughs interlaced four feet high in ſtakes; and "white thorn planted by the ſide of it, intermixed with ſallow ſtakes, and without any ditches; "this practice is a wretched one, for the ſallow "is ſo quick a grower as to overtop the thorns, "and drip them to death; nor is it of any uſe as "a fence itſelf, growing ragged and open at "bottom. In Suffolk, &c. every one that is "curious in fences, keeps all plants from among "the thorns, becauſe none unites with them; "and

" and gaps are for ever made in the hedges, by " means of taking hold of fallows, hazels, oaks, " aſhes, or ſuch plants, which are not offenſive- " ly armed; whereas a white-thorn fence is im- " penetrable; and their having no ditches, ex- " poſes the young plants entirely to the cattle.

" After they are grown up and come to be " plaſhed, they become very ſtrong, though at a " great expence of wood; for they lay down an " immenſe quantity of boughs, many bigger than " a ſtout man's thigh, and they afterwards con- " tinuing to grow, form a prodigious ſtrong " hedge; but yet the want of ditches to them " make them very eaſy to paſs; and when new " done, the paſſage is as eaſy as a ſtile. They " cut little trenches, about eighteen inches wide " and twelve deep, and call them ditches; but " in many of their flat fields their corn in winter " is half ſpoiled, for want of good ones to drain " the water off. Their ploughs are much worſe " than their hedges, ſo exceedingly large and " heavy, that the mere draft of the weight is " ſufficient for two horſes; a ſhare commonly " weighs ſixty or ſeventy pounds. From hence " reſults the practice of never ſtirring with leſs " than four horſes, on a light looſe gravel, after " it has received three or four earths for turnips; " the fifth, nay the tenth, would not be given " without ſtrong horſes and two ſtout men, one " to hold and another to drive, and never do " above an acre. Much ſtronger lands than any " in this neighbourhood are, in Suffolk and Eſ- " ſex, broke up the firſt time with a pair of horſes " and one man, who both plows and drives; " but then one of theſe implements weighs as " much as five of the ploughs of thoſe counties. " The loſs, from this miſtaken practice, muſt be " amazingly great, ſince the difference is juſt half;

" for the wear of these immense ploughs cannot be " less than double that of the little ones, so that " a change would at once double the quantity of " land plowed, and at the same expence. Sup- " pose a farmer has two hundred acres of arable " land, and that he gives them, upon an average, " three earths a year; this is plowing six hun- " dred acres once; now if we call an earth 5 s. " which (and 5 s. 6 d.) is the price in Hertfordshire, " these two hundred acres cost him 150 l. " whereas, by dividing his team, he might either " save half that sum, or give his land double the " number of stirrings; besides enjoying the capi- " tal advantage of being twice as speedy in critical " seed-times: a point of infinite importance. " I should remark, that they do not plow either " deeper or more true than in other countries; " they sometimes carry a much broader furrow, " but that is a most pernicious practice, and ab- " horred by all good husbandmen; nor is it of " any consequence to the farmer, as his teams do " but an acre a day."

The uncommon plants growing wild in this county are:

Small mountainous round-leaved chick-weed, resembling stone-basil, *Alsine montana minima acini facie rotundi-folia. An alsines minoris alia*, Thal. Harcyn. In the mountainous parts of this county, on the borders of Buckinghamshire near Chalfont, St. Peter.

Yellow loosestrife, with a globular tuft of flowers, *Lysimachia lutea flore globoso*, Ger. Park. Said to be found near Kings Langley.

Pepper-mint, or mint having the taste of pepper. *Mentha piperata.* Found in this county by Dr. Eales.

Fresh-water-soldier, or water-aloe, *Militaris aizoides*, Ger. In the new ditches of Hatfield.

Marsh

Marſh tway-blade, *Ophris ſive bifolium paluſtre*, Park. On the wet grounds between Hatfield and St. Albans. Park. p. 505.

The greater fly-orchis, *Orchis myodes major*, Park. *Major flore grandiuſculo*, J. B. Found near Welling in Hertfordſhire.

Broad-leaved baſtard-hellebore, with a white cloſe flower, *Helleborine latifolio flore albo clauſo*. Found by Dr. Eales, near Diggeſwell in this county.

Jagged cow-parſnep, *Sphondylium montanum minus auguſtifolium tenuiter laciniatum*, near Tring in this county.

Hertfordſhire lies in the province of Canterbury, and is partly in the dioceſe of London, and partly in that of Lincoln. It contains one hundred and twenty pariſhes, and is divided into eight hundreds; but the juſtices of the peace, for the greater convenience of themſelves and the people, have divided the whole county into three parts, in each of which they have their ſeveral courts or petty ſeſſions. It has no city, but contains eighteen market towns, and ſends ſix members to parliament, namely, two knights of the ſhire for the county, two burgeſſes for Hertford, and two for St. Albans.

The firſt town on entering this county, in the road from London to Dunſtable, is BARNET, alſo called HIGH BARNET, from its ſituation on the top of a hill, and CHEAPING BARNET, from its having a cheap or market, to diſtinguiſh it from a village in its neighbourhood, called Eaſt Barnet. This is a well frequented place on the great north road, eleven miles north-weſt of London, and is therefore well ſupplied with inns. The church here is ſeated in the middle of the town, and is a chapel of eaſe to Eaſt Barnet. In this town is a free-ſchool founded by queen Elizabeth, and endowed

dowed partly by her majesty, and partly by alderman Owen of London, whose additional endowment is paid by the fishmonger's company, who have the privilege of appointing twenty-four governors, who choose the master and usher. These teach seven children gratis, and all the rest of the parish for five shillings a quarter. There is here also an alms-house, founded and endowed for six widows, by James Ravenscroft, Esq; In the time of the Saxons this place was a large wood, granted to the church of St. Albans, and confirmed by several kings, by the name of Berdnet, which, in the Saxon tongue, signifies a little hill. King Henry the Second granted the abbots of St. Albans the privilege of having a market kept here on Mondays, which still continues, and is famous for corn and cattle, and especially swine. It has two fairs, namely, on April 8, 9, and 10, and on September 4, 5, and 6, for English, Welch and Scotch cattle.

This place is famous for a bloody battle fought upon Gladmore-common in its neighbourhood, on the 14th of April 1468, between the two houses of York and Lancaster. This battle began early in the morning, and lasted till noon; and never, perhaps, had two armies been seen to fight with more bravery and obstinacy; but at length Edward the Fourth gained the victory, and the great earl of Warwick, who fought for Henry the Sixth, fell covered with wounds. The place supposed to be the field of battle is a green spot, a little before the meeting of the St. Albans and Hatfield roads; and here in the year 1740 a stone column was erected, on which is inscribed a long account of that battle.

ELSTREE, IDLESTREE, or EAGLESTREE, about three miles to the south-west of Barnet, upon the borders of Middlesex, is now a small village, built

built upon the Roman road called Watlingſtreet, and has a church, which is but a mean ſtructure. This is thought by Norden to have been the Roman city called Sullonicae mentioned by Antoninus, as at the diſtance of twelve miles from London; but Mr. Camden and Horſley are of opinion, that it was on Brockley-hill in this neighbourhood, many urns, coins, Roman bricks, and other antiquities, having been dug up there; and at Pennywell, near Brockley-hill, are ſtill viſible the foundations of ſeveral walls, which, according to tradition, are the remains of a city.

St. Albans, which is twelve miles ſouth-eaſt of Dunſtable, and twenty-one north-weſt of London, received its name from an abbey built there in the year 703, to the memory of Albanus, the firſt martyr of Britain, who ſuffered in the perſecution under the emperor Diocleſian, and was canonized as a ſaint. It is generally conſidered as having riſen out of the ruins of the ancient Verulam, which was ſeated on the other ſide of the river Ver. When Julius Caeſar invaded this iſland, Verulam was a large and populous city, but there are now no other remains of it but the ruins of walls, ſome teſſelated pavements, and Roman coins, that from time to time have been diſcovered by digging. It was ſeated on a gentle deſcent on the weſtern ſide of the hill, fortified with a mud wall and ditch, and encompaſſed with woods and marſhes. The inhabitants enjoyed the ſame rights and privileges as the Roman citizens, and this ſo firmly united them to the Romans, that Boadicea, conſidering them as enemies, razed the city, and made a moſt dreadful ſlaughter of the Romans and their allies; but Suetonius Paulinus, lieutenant of Britain, returning from the conqueſt of the Iſle of Man with the fourteenth legion and ten thouſand auxiliaries,

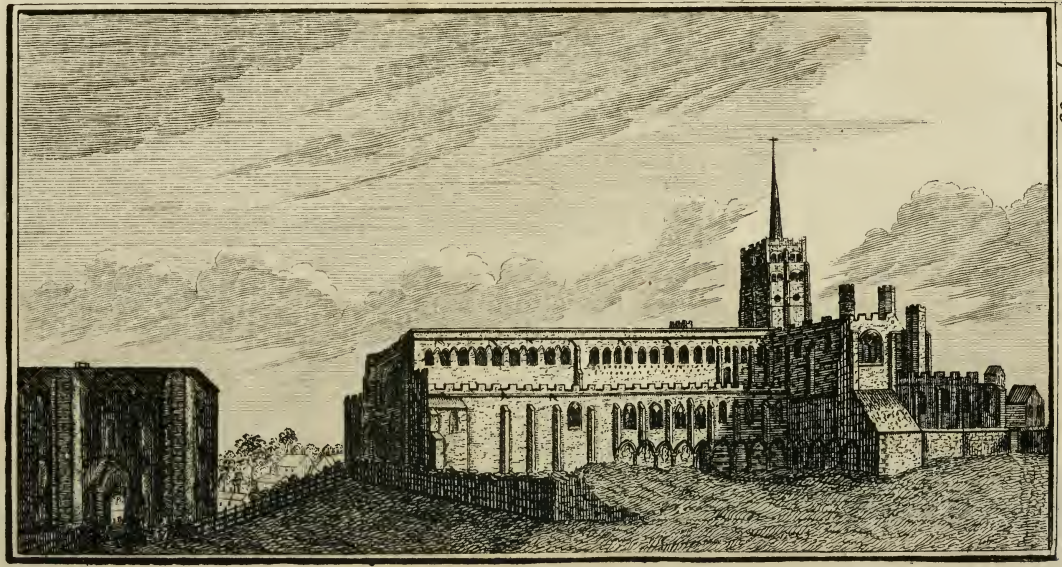
ries, immediately attacked the Britons, gained a complete victory, and put eighty thousand to the sword. After this, the city was rebuilt, and the Britons lived very quietly under the Roman government till the year 304, when Diocleſian began to perſecute the chriſtians. At length, when the Saxons had gained a footing here, they conquered this Roman city, and called it Werlamceſter, and Watlingeceſter, from the famous Roman highway called Watlingſtreet, on which it ſtands.

One part of the ditch at Verulam is ſtill viſible, it is double, but irregularly formed. The ſtreets likewiſe may ſtill be traced, eſpecially when the corn is nearly ripe. The compoſition of the Roman wall was three feet of layers of flint, and one foot made up of three courſes of Roman brick; and there were round holes quite through the wall, about eight yards diſtant from each other. That part of the wall by the weſt gate, called Gorham block, is twelve feet thick. It would be endleſs to recount all the antiquities that have been dug up at Verulam: ſeveral moſaic pavements have been ſeen, and one in particular was found in 1719.

St. Albans ſent members to parliament as early as any borough in the kingdom. It is incorporated by charter, and governed by a mayor, a high ſteward, a recorder, twelve aldermen, a town-clerk, and twenty-four aſſiſtants. This borough has a diſtrict called a Liberty, which has a juriſdiction both in civil and eccleſiaſtical matters, peculiar to itſelf, including the pariſhes of Barnet, Sandridge, Redburne, Cudicot, Shepehele, Buſhy, Elſtre, Langley-Abbots, Sarret, Walden-Abbots, Hoxton, Ridge, Norton, Rickmanſworth, and Watford. This liberty has a jail, and a jail-delivery at St. Alban's four times a year, on the Thurſday after the quarter ſeſſions at Hertford. St. Albans

is

The North West View of St Albans Abbey, *in the County of* Hertford.



is divided into four wards, in each of which is a conſtable and two churchwardens.

Though this town is far from being remarkable for its beauty and the elegance of its buildings, the country round it, being extremely pleaſant, abounds with fine ſeats. The town is both large and populous, and has four pariſh churches, St. Alban's, St. Peter's, St. Stephen's, and St. Michael's, beſides ſeveral meeting-houſes. St. Alban's was the abbey-church founded by Offa, king of the Mercians, in the year 793, on the ſpot where St. Alban was martyred. King Offa afterwards cauſed ſeveral houſes to be built near this abbey for the reception of ſtrangers and travellers, as well as for the uſe of the ſervants and officers belonging to it; ſo that in proceſs of time it increaſed to a town. In the year 1154, Nicholas biſhop of Abba, who was born near this monaſtery, being choſen pope, aſſumed the name of Adrian the Fourth, and granted many privileges to this abbey, cauſing the abbot to be the firſt in England, both in order and dignity. At the time of the diſſolution this abbey was valued at 2102l. a year by Dugdale, but at 2510l. by Speed. The inhabitants then purchaſed that part of it that is ſtill ſtanding, and converted it into a pariſh church. It is at preſent a large pile of building, that may juſtly claim a particular regard both for its antiquity and beauty, of which the reader will be a judge, from the engraved view we have given of it. In this ancient edifice is a funeral monument and effigies of king Offa, its founder, ſeated on his throne. On the eaſt ſide ſtood the ſhrine of St. Alban, and in the ſouth iſle, near the above ſhrine, is the monument of Humphrey, brother to king Henry the Fifth, commonly diſtinguiſhed by the title of the good duke of Gloceſter. It is adorned with a ducal

cal coronet, and the arms of France and England quartered. In niches on one ſide are ſeventeen kings, but in the niches on the other there are no ſtatues remaining. On this tomb is a Latin inſcription, alluding to the pretended miraculous cure of a blind man detected by the duke.

This inſcription has been thus tranſlated into Engliſh:

Sacred to the pious memory of an excellent man.
Interr'd within this conſecrated ground,
Lies he whom Henry his protector found.
Good Humphrey, Glo'ſter's duke, who well could ſpy
Fraud couch'd within the blind impoſtor's eye.
His country's light, the ſtate's rever'd ſupport,
Who peace, and riſing learning deign'd to court;
Whence his rich library, at Oxford plac'd,
Her ample ſchools with ſacred influence grac'd:
Yet fell beneath an envious woman's wile,
Both to herſelf, her king and kingdom vile:
Who ſcarce allow'd his bones this ſpot of land:
Yet ſpite of envy ſhall his glory ſtand.

About fifty years ago was diſcovered in digging a grave, a pair of ſtairs that led down into a vault, in which was found a leaden coffin, wherein the duke of Gloceſter's corpſe was preſerved almoſt entire, by a kind of pickle in which it lay; only the fleſh was waſted from the legs, the pickle at that end of the coffin being dried up. In this church was a very noble font of ſolid braſs, given it by Sir Richard Lea, maſter of the pioneers, who took it, among other plunder out of Scotland in the year 1543, where it ſerved as a font for baptizing the children of the royal family, but was placed here as a common baptiſtry. It was, however, carried away in the civil wars in the

the reign of king Charles the Firſt, and converted into money.

St. Peter's church is ſituated on the north ſide of the town, and St. Michael's on the north-weſt; and both of them are handſome ſtructures. In the latter, among other monuments, is one in memory of the famous Francis Bacon lord Verulam, with his effigy in alabaſter ſeated in an elbow chair.

In the middle of the town of St. Alban's king Edward the Firſt erected a very ſtately croſs in memory of queen Eleanor, who dying in Lincolnſhire, was carried thro' this town to Weſtminſter, in order to be interred there. Here are two charity-ſchools, one for twenty-eight boys, who are all cloathed; the other for twenty-one girls, of whom fourteen only are cloathed. This town gives the title of duke to the noble family of Beauclerk. The great duke of Marlborough erected a ſeat here called Holloway-houſe, and ſeveral neat almshouſes were built here by him and his dutcheſs dowager, who cauſed a fine ſtatue of the late queen Anne, carved by Mr. Ryſbrack, to be erected, on the pedeſtal of which ſhe inſcribed a character of her majeſty. This town ſends two members to parliament, but has no particular manufacture: it has two markets, held on Wedneſdays and Saturdays; and three fairs, which are kept on the 25th of March, the 17th of June, and the 29th of September, for horſes, cows and ſheep.

At KINGSBURY, about a mile north-weſt of St. Alban's, was a palace of the Saxon kings, which was demoliſhed in the reign of king Stephen.

REDBURN, a large village about four miles north-weſt of St. Alban's, is a great thoroughfare, ſeated on the ancient Roman way called Wat-

Watlingſtreet, and has ſeveral inns. Camden imagines, that the Roman ſtation named Durobrivae was at this place, but Horſley would have that ſtation to be either at Dunſtable or Fenny Stratford. This village has four fairs, which are held on the firſt Wedneſday after New-year's-day; the firſt of January; on Wedneſday in Eaſter week, and on Wedneſday in Whitſun-week, for toys. This village was anciently very famous for the pretended relicks of Amphibalus the martyr, who converted St. Albanus to chriſtianity. In this village was a cell of a prior and a few Benedictine monks from St. Alban's, dedicated to St. Amphibalus the martyr and his companions. This cell was in being in the year 1195.

At ST. JULIAN'S near St. Alban's was an hoſpital for leprous men, and about the year 1190, Garinus, or Warine, abbot of St. Alban's, founded in the fields adjoining an hoſpital for poor ſick and leprous women, dedicated to the Virgin Mary. This was called St. Mary de la Pray, de Pratis, or de Pree, and at length became ſo well endowed, that there were maintained in it a prioreſs and ſeveral nuns of the order of St. Benedict. Cardinal Wolſey, about the year 1528, procured a bull from pope Clement the Eighth, for the ſuppreſſion of this houſe, and annexing it to the abbey of St. Alban's; but in the twentieth year of Henry the Eighth, he obtained a grant of it, with all the lands belonging to it, for himſelf. After the cardinal's attainder, the king gave it, by way of exchange, to St. Alban's abbey.

About ſeven miles to the northward of St. Alban's is FLAMSTED, which is ſituated a little out of the road, and had formerly a charter for holding a market on Thurſdays, and a fair, that was to continue five days, but they have been long diſuſed. The church ſtands on a hill, and has three

three handſome iſles, with a ſquare tower and a lofty ſpire covered with lead; and in the chancel are ſeveral monuments. In this pariſh Roger de Toney founded a ſmall priory for a prioreſs, and ten nuns of the order of St. Benedict, in the reign of king Stephen, which was dedicated to St. Giles, and valued at the diſſolution at 30 l. 19 s. 8 d. a year. The land here is clay mixt with flints, which lie ſo thick, that after a ſhower, it ſeems to be nothing but a heap of ſtones, and yet it bears very good corn.

We ſhall now enter this county at RICKMANSWORTH on its ſouth-eaſt borders. The name of this town is ſaid to be a corruption of Rickmeareſwearth, which it is ſuppoſed to have received from its ſituation on a neck of land, almoſt ſurrounded by a nameleſs river, which runs into the Coln, and forms a conſiderable pool of water. It ſtands low, in a black, mooriſh, cold ſoil, ten miles ſouth by weſt of St. Alban's, and eighteen from London. It is governed by two conſtables, and two headboroughs. The church is a handſome ſtructure, and has a tower, and there are ſeveral monuments in the church and chancel, Here is a charity-ſchool for twenty boys and ten girls, with two alms-houſes, one for five widows, and the other for four. There are ſeveral mills upon the neighbouring ſtreams, which occaſion a great quantity of wheat to be brought thither; but as the town ſtands low, the meadows are mooriſh, cold and moſſy; nor are the higher grounds, eſpecially on the north ſide, more fertile, they being ſtony and barren. It has a ſmall market on Saturdays, and three fairs, which are held on the 20th of July, and the 24th of November, for horſes, black cattle, ſheep and hogs; and on the Saturday before the third Monday in September, for hiring ſervants.

This

This town gave birth to Sir Thomas White, merchant-taylor of London, who founded Gloceſter-hall, and St. John's college in Oxford.

About a mile ſouth-eaſt of Rickmanſworth is MORE PARK, in which is a fine houſe ſeated on the ſide of a hill, and has been eſteemed the beſt piece of brick-work in England. It belonged to the duke of Monmouth, and his dutcheſs, on whom it was ſettled by marriage, ſold it in the year 1720 to Benjamin Heſkins Stiles, Eſq; who built a ſouth front of ſtone with colonades, and an opening was made through a hill that obſtructed the view towards Uxbridge. A north front was alſo erected, and the hill towards Watford cut through for a viſta. In digging this hill, there were found veins of ſea-ſand, with muſcles in it. This houſe afterwards belonged to the late lord Anſon.

About four miles to the north-eaſt of Rickmanſworth is WATFORD, by ſome ſuppoſed to have been originally called Watlingford. It is ſeated on the river Coln, and had anciently a ford at the ſouth end of the town, from whence it is ſuppoſed to have its name; but others tell us, that the Pretorian, or Conſular way, made by the Romans, called Watlingſtreet, croſſes the Coln near it, and paſſes on to Verulam, whence it obtained the name of Watlingford. It is ſituated ſeven miles to the ſouthward of St. Alban's, and ſeventeen weſt by north of London, and conſiſts of one long ſtreet, which is extremely dirty in the winter; and the waters of the river, at the entrance of the town, are frequently ſo much ſwelled by floods, as to be impaſſable. The church ſtands near the town, and contains three large iſles, a chancel, with two chapels on each ſide, and a ſquare tower. Here is a handſome free-ſchool built in 1709, by Mrs. Elizabeth Fuller, with a charity-ſchool for forty boys, who are both taught and

and cloathed; and ſeveral alms-houſes. The market, which is on Tueſdays, is well ſupplied with proviſions and other neceſſaries; and there is a fair, on Trinity-Monday and Tueſday for horſes, cows, ſheep, and the hiring of ſervants.

CASHIOBURY, near Watford, is ſaid to have been the ſeat of the kings of Mercia, during the heptarchy, till Offa gave it to the monaſtery of St. Alban's. It was, however, beſtowed by Henry the Eighth on Richard Moriſon, Eſq; from whom it paſſed to Arthur, lord Capel, baron Hadham, and from him deſcended to the earls of Eſſex, who have here a noble ſeat erected in the form of an H, with a large park, adorned with fine woods and walks. The front faces the ſouth-eaſt, and looks directly on the houſe in More park; before it is a fine dry lawn, which immediately, after the heavieſt rains, may be rode or walked on, as on the drieſt downs; a little below the houſe is a river, which winds through the park, and in the drieſt ſeaſons runs with a fine ſtream, that affords plenty of moſt ſorts of freſh-water fiſh. On the north and eaſt ſides of the houſe are walks thro' woods, planted by the famous Le Notre, in the reign of king Charles the Second; but moſt of the walks are too narrow for their length, and too regular for the modern taſte. On the other ſide of the river, the ground riſes to a conſiderable height, which affords an agreeable variety; for part of them being covered with woods, appearing at a proper diſtance from the front of the houſe, have a fine effect.

From Watford a road extends north-weſtward to Buckingham, in this road is ABBOTS LANGLEY, which is ſituated on a hill, four miles to the north-weſt of Watford, and five miles ſouth-weſt of St. Alban's. A little to the eaſt of King's Langley, to which king John granted the manor

of

of this place, in order to cloath the monks of the abbey there. The church is ſeated in the middle of the town, and has a handſome tower at the weſt end. This place gives the title of baron to the lord Raymond, who has a ſeat in this neighbourhood.

This town is famous for giving birth to pope Adrian, the only Engliſhman that had ever the honour of ſitting in the papal chair. His original name was Nicholas Breakſpear. Being refuſed admittance into the monaſtery of his native place, he travelled into France, where he became a regular clerk in the monaſtery of St. Rufus in Provence, and was afterwards choſen ſuperior of that houſe. In 1146, Pope Eugenius the Third created him cardinal biſhop of St. Alba, and ſent him to convert the Danes and Norwegians, whom he reclaimed from idolatry. At his return to Rome, he was received with great marks of honour; and, upon the death of pope Anaſtaſius, who had ſucceeded Eugenius, the biſhop of Alba, was unanimouſly advanced to the papal throne, and took the name of Adrian. He died September the 1ſt, 1159, in the fifth year of his pontificate, and was buried in St. Peter's church at Rome.

KING'S LANGLEY is ſituated about a mile to the weſt of Abbots Langley, and is ſo called from its being anciently one of the royal ſeats of the kings of England. King Edward the Third built a palace here, in which his ſon Edmund of Langley was born and buried. The palace, park and manor, were given by James the Firſt, to his eldeſt ſon prince Henry, and after his death, to prince Charles, who after he came to the throne, granted it to Sir Charles Moriſon, for ninety-nine years, from whom it has paſſed into ſeveral hands.

Here

Here was a houſe of preaching friars, ſaid to be firſt founded by Roger, the ſon of Robert Helly, an Engliſh baron, but enlarged in buildings, and encreaſed in revenues, by the munificence of Edward the Firſt, Edward the Second, Edward the Third, and Edward the Fourth, ſo as to exceed all the houſes of this order in England, it being valued on the ſuppreſſion at 122 l. a year. Queen Mary reſtored this houſe to a prioreſs and nuns; but it was finally diſſolved in the firſt year of queen Elizabeth, who gave the revenues to the biſhop of Ely, and his ſucceſſors.

About ſeven miles to the northward of Watford is HEMPSTEAD, which is ſuppoſed to have derived its name from the great growth of hemp in that place. It ſtands among hills, upon a ſmall river called the Gade, and is a pretty populous place, five miles eaſt of Berkhamſted, and twenty-ſix north-weſt of London. The church, which is near the town, has a handſome tower, with a tall ſpire, which is the chief ornament of the place, and has a good ring of bells. This town was incorporated by king Henry the Eighth. It is governed by a bailiff, and the inhabitants are impowered to have a common ſeal, and a pye-powder-court, at the market and fairs. The market is eſteemed one of the greateſt in England for wheat, 20,000 l. a week being often returned only for meal; and beſides the trade in corn and meal, ſeveral thouſand pounds a week are returned in ſtraw-hats. The market is on Thurſdays, and it has a fair on the firſt Thurſday after Whitſun-week, for horſes, cows, ſheep, and hiring ſervants.

BERKHAMSTED is ſituated on the borders of Buckinghamſhire, five miles eaſt of Hempſtead, nine miles ſouth of Dunſtable, and thirty miles from London. Its name ſignifies a town among hills.

hills. King Henry the Second kept his court here, and granted the town ſeveral privileges, particularly that its merchants ſhould paſs free of toll and cuſtom, not only through England, but through Normandy, Acquitain, and Anjou; and that no judicial proceſs ſhould be executed by any of the king's officers within its liberties, except by its own high ſteward, coroner, and bailiffs; that no market ſhould be kept within the diſtance of ſeven miles, and that the inhabitants ſhould not be obliged to attend any aſſizes or ſeſſions. In the reign of Henry the Third, it was a borough; and in the fourteenth of king Edward the Third, it ſent members to parliament. To the manor, which derives its name from the town, there belong fifty-three townſhips, which are obliged to pay homage, and chooſe conſtables here. Of theſe townſhips eleven are in this county, fifteen in Buckinghamſhire, and twenty-ſeven in Northamptonſhire. King James the Firſt, whoſe children were nurſed here, made it a corporation, by the name of bailiff and burgeſſes of Berkhamſted St. Peter. The burgeſſes were twelve, who choſe a recorder and town-clerk, and had a priſon; but the corporation was ſo impoveriſhed by the civil wars, in the reign of king Charles the Firſt, that the government dropped, and has not ſince been renewed.

Berkhampſted is ſeated on the ſide of a hill, is a pretty large place, and has a handſome broad ſtreet of a conſiderable length. The church, which ſtands in the middle of the town, is a ſpacious edifice, dedicated to St. Peter, and has many chapels and oratories. The roof is ſupported by twelve pillars, on eleven of which are repreſentations of eleven of the apoſtles, with each of them a ſentence of the Creed; and on the twelfth pillar, is a figure of St. George killing the dragon. Here

is

is a free grammar school, which is a handsome brick structure well endowed, the king being patron, and the warden of All-Souls college in Oxford visitor. One of the chapels in the church, called St. John's chapel, is used only by the master, ushers, and scholars, of this free-school. Here is also a charity-school, and an alms-house, built by Mr. John Sayer and his wife, who endowed it with 1300 l. for the maintenance of six poor widows. They have a market on Thursdays, besides their ancient market, on Mondays; and three fairs, which are held on Shrove-Monday, and Whit-Monday, for cattle; and on the 25th of July, for cheese.

That this was a Roman town evidently appears from the coins and other remains of antiquity frequently dug up here. In the time of the heptarchy, the kings of Mercia resided here; and here Wightred, king of Kent and Mercia, held a parliament in the year 697. Here also were published the laws of king Ina. It had an ancient castle built on the north side of the town, made exceeding strong by the Saxons, which was rebuilt by Moreton, earl of Cornwall, brother to king William the Conqueror; but being razed, on account of a rebellion in the reign of William the Second, the ground, with the manor, fell to the crown. King Henry the Second kept his court at Berkhampsted, and granted great privileges to the place. The castle was afterwards rebuilt, and in the reign of king John was besieged by the dauphin of France, in conjunction with the barons, and the defendants held out till they had an order from the king to surrender. The castle being at length demolished, a large house was built out of its ruins, but what now remains of it is only the third part, the other

two-thirds being deſtroyed by fire in the reign of Charles the Firſt.

In the reign of king John there were here two hoſpitals of poor and infirm perſons, one of them dedicated to St. John the Baptiſt, and the other, which was both for brothers and ſiſters lepers, to St. John the Evangeliſt, the cuſtody of both of which was granted by Geffrey Fitz Pierce, earl of Eſſex, to the houſe of St. Thomas, of Acon in London. There were likewiſe in this town, in the reign of king Edward the Second, an hoſpital of St. Thomas the Martyr, and an old hoſpital called St. James's, from St. James's well, at the farther end of the High-ſtreet.

Thomas Ken, a pious prelate of the ſeventeenth century, was born at this town, in July 1637. He was educated at Wincheſter ſchool, and at New college, and Wincheſter college, in Oxford. In 1675, which was the year of the jubilee, he travelled to Rome, and was wont to ſay, that he had reaſon to thank God for his travels, inaſmuch as he returned from them with a more thorough conviction of the purity of the reformed religion, than he had formerly been impreſſed with. He afterwards became chaplain to king Charles the Second, and to the princeſs of Orange; and in 1685, was advanced to the biſhopric of Bath and Wells. In the beginning of the ſame year he attended king Charles the Second, on his death-bed; and acquitted himſelf, on that delicate occaſion, with a piety and prudence which did honour to his character. In the following reign, he oppoſed, with great zeal, the progreſs of popery; and was one of the ſeven biſhops who were committed to the tower, on account of their ſubſcribing a petition to his majeſty againſt the declaration of indulgence. He refuſed, however, at the time of the revolution, to take the oaths to

king

king William and queen Mary, and, for that reaſon, was deprived of his biſhopric. Upon the acceſſion of queen Anne to the throne, he was allowed a penſion of 200 l. a year, which he enjoyed till his death. He expired March the 19th, 1711, and was buried in the church-yard of Froome-Selwood, in his own dioceſe. He wrote an *Expoſition of the Church Catechiſm*; *Prayers for the Uſe of the Bath*; *Evangelical Hymns*; and ſome other pieces.

TRING is ſituated four miles north-weſt of Berkhamſted, and thirty-three north-weſt of London; and is the moſt weſtern town in the county. It is a place of great antiquity, and in the time of the Saxons, gave name to a hundred, of which it was the capital. It is now a ſmall but neat place, yet has a large handſome church, with a chapel at the eaſt end, and a tower, in which is a ring of ſix bells; and in the chancel are ſeveral fine monuments; the church and chancel were not very long ago beautified and wainſcoted by Sir Richard Anderſon and Mr. Gore. It has a conſiderable market for corn, on Fridays, and the town has the privilege of two fairs, on June 29, and September 29; but the firſt is not obſerved, and the other is only for hiring ſervants. Near this town is a park of three hundred acres, and a very fine wood; and at a village called Little Tring, in this pariſh, riſes one of the heads of the river Thames.

We muſt not leave this place without mentioning a melancholy inſtance of the ſuperſtition of the vulgar. In April 1751, a fellow who kept a public houſe in this town, imagining himſelf to be bewitched, by one Ruth Oſborne and her huſband, harmleſs people above ſeventy years of age, had it cried at ſeveral market towns, that they were to be tried by ducking on a particular

day. This occaſioned a vaſt concourſe. The pariſh officers, who were men of ſenſe, removed the old couple from the workhouſe, into the church, for ſecurity; but the blind fury of the mob was not to be appeaſed; for miſſing them, they demoliſhed part of the workhouſe, and ſeizing the governor, threatened to drown him, and fire the houſe. The poor wretches were at length, for the public ſafety, delivered up; on which the mob ſtripped them naked, and having tied their thumbs to their toes, wrapped them in two different ſheets, then dragged them two miles, and threw them into a muddy ſtream. After much ducking and ill uſage, the old woman was thrown naked on the bank, almoſt choaked with mud, and expired a few minutes after, ſhe being kicked and beat with ſticks, even after ſhe was dead. To add to this barbarity, they put the dead witch, as they called her, in bed with her huſband, and tied them together. The old man afterwards recovered, but did not appear as an evidence. For this crime, one Thomas Colley, the moſt active of the rabble, ſuffered death.

We ſhall now enter this county by the great northern road, which enters it at Waltham Croſs, and leads northward to Hertford. WALTHAM CROSS, alſo called WEST WALTHAM, is a poſt and market town, on the weſt ſide of the river Lea, which divides this county from Eſſex, and ſeparates Waltham Croſs from Waltham Abbey, at the diſtance of twelve miles from London. It takes its diſtinguiſhing epithet from the croſs built here by Edward the Firſt, in honour of Eleanor his queen, whoſe corpſe reſted here in its way from Lincolnſhire to London. That princeſs's effigies are placed round the pillar, with the arms of her conſort, and thoſe of her own, namely

England,

England, Caſtile, Leon and Poictou, which are ſtill in part remaining, though greatly defaced.

About two miles to the weſtward of Waltham Croſs is THEOBALDS, a pleaſant village, in the pariſh of Cheſhunt, ſituated by the New River. Here a magnificent ſeat was erected by the great lord Burleigh, in the reign of queen Elizabeth. The gallery, ſays Hentzner, was painted with the genealogy of the kings of England; and from thence was a deſcent into the garden, which was encompaſſed with a moat, filled with water, and large enough to have the pleaſure of rowing in a boat between the ſhrubs; it was adorned with a great variety of trees and plants, labyrinths made with much labour, a fountain with its baſon of white marble, and with columns and pyramids. The ſummer-houſe was built ſemicircularly, and in the lower part were the twelve Roman emperors in white marble, alſo a table of touch-ſtone; the upper part of it was ſet round with leaden ciſterns, into which water was conveyed through pipes. This ſeat the lord Burleigh gave to Sir Robert Cecil, his younger ſon, in whoſe time king James the Firſt ſtaid there, for one night's refreſhment, on his coming out of Scotland, to take poſſeſſion of the throne, and met with a noble reception; when he was ſo delighted with the place, that he afterwards gave Sir Robert the manor of Hatfield Regis in exchange for it; and not long after, created him earl of Saliſbury. King James enlarged the park, and encompaſſed it with a wall ten miles round. This palace he frequently viſited, in order to enjoy the pleaſure of hunting in Enfield Chaſe, and Epping Foreſt; and at laſt died there. But in the civil wars it was plundered and defaced. King Charles the Second granted the manor to George Monk, duke of Albemarle; but it reverting again to the crown for want of

heirs male, king William the Third gave it to William Bentinck, whom he created earl of Portland, and from him it descended to the duke his grandson. The great park, a part of which is in Hertfordshire, and a part in Middlesex, is now converted into farms.

In this village are several houses belonging to persons of distinction, and in this neighbourhood Richard Cromwell, who had abdicated the protectorship, resided in a very private manner during the latter part of his life.

CHESHUNT, which is situated about three miles to the north-east of Theobalds, is thought by some to be the Durolitum of Antoninus, which he places fifteen miles from London, and stands near the military way called Erminstreet. In Kilsmore field, west of Cheshunt, are the remains of a camp, where an oblong fortification is yet remaining, and a rampart and ditch are very visible, for above a hundred yards. King Edward the Third gave Cheshunt the privilege of a market, which has been long discontinued. It consists chiefly of a long street, and has a church and meeting-house. A Benedictine nunnery, dedicated to the Virgin Mary, was founded here before the year 1183, and augmented with the lands and tenements of the canons of Cathale, in the twenty-fourth year of king Henry the Third, yet at the general dissolution it was valued at no more than 14 l. 1 s. a year.

HODSDON, or HODDESDON, is a great thoroughfare town on the north road, seated on the river Lea, three miles south of Ware, and eighteen north of London. Queen Elizabeth granted this town a grammar-school by charter, and endowed the town with certain privileges. It had formerly a chapel erected in the middle of the town for the ease of the inhabitants; but through negli-

gence,

gence, it became in time so ruinous, that it has been pulled down, and nothing is remaining but the part on which the clock is placed. An almshouse was founded here, so early as the reign of king Henry the Sixth, by Richard Rich, sheriff of London, and ancestor to the late earls of Warwick. This town has a good market on Thursdays for all sorts of corn, and a fair on the 29th of July, for toys.

HERTFORD, or HARTFORD, the county-town, was called by the ancient Britons Durocobrivae, or Red Ford, from the supposition that the gravel at the ford over the Lea was red; whence some have thought the present name derived from the Saxon Herudford, or Herotford, which has the same signification; but Dr. Gibson derives Hartford from a hart, this county formerly abounding in deer; and the arms of the town being a hart couchant in the water, seems to confirm the opinion; besides the soil, in this part of the county, is not red; for these reasons some choose to write the name Hartford. It is pleasantly seated in a sweet air and dry vale, twenty-three miles from London, and was of some note in the time of the ancient Britons. The Saxon kings often kept their court here; and upon the first division of the kingdom into counties, it was made the county town. King Alfred built a castle to defend the town and neighbourhood against the Danes, who, in their light pinnaces, came up from the Thames, by the river Lea, as far as Ware, and there erected a fort, whence they made frequent sallies to plunder and destroy the country. The manor of Hertford being vested in king Edward the Elder, he built a borough, and fortified it with a wall of turf, for the defence of his tenants. The manor continued vested in the king, but the bailiff, under-bailiff, and other officers, were annually

chosen by the burgesses of the town; the bailiff was allowed by the king twenty shillings a year for a livery gown, and the porter of the castle was nominated by the king, who paid him two-pence a day: the burgesses chose a steward to keep courts for the borough, where rents were paid, controversies determined, wills proved, by-laws made, offenders punished, and fines assessed; and the governors of the castle were usually the sheriffs of Hertfordshire and Essex. This town sent members to parliament in the reign of king Edward the First, but after the seventh of Henry the Fifth, the bailiff and burgesses desiring to be excused, on account of their poverty, this was discontinued till the twenty-second of James the First. In the reign of Henry the Seventh, the standard of weights and measures was fixed here; and queen Mary rendered this a corporation, by the name of bailiffs, and sixteen burgesses. In the twenty-fifth and thirty-fifth years of queen Elizabeth, when the plague raged in London, Michaelmas term was kept here, and a new charter was granted by that queen, by the stile of a bailiff, eleven capital burgesses, and sixteen assistants. King James the First granted the town another charter, with the stile of the mayor, burgesses, and commonalty, to have ten capital burgesses, and sixteen assistants, the mayor to be chosen out of the burgesses, by both the burgesses and assistants; but the town is now governed by a mayor, a high steward, who is generally a nobleman, a recorder, nine aldermen, a town-clerk, a chamberlain, ten capital burgesses, sixteen assistants, and two serjeants at mace.

Hertford is built in the form of a Roman Y, and has a castle placed between the two horns, in which is the sessions house for the county. It has likewise a county goal. It had formerly five churches,

churches, which are now reduced to two, and has ſeveral meeting-houſes of diſſenters. The churches are named All Saints, and St. Andrews; the former is ſituated on the ſouth ſide of the town, and has a lofty ſpire covered with lead, and eight bells, beſides an organ, and a handſome gallery, for the mayor and aldermen of the borough, and for the governors of Chriſt-church hoſpital in London, who have erected a handſome ſtructure for ſuch children as either want health, or are too young for that hoſpital. St. Andrews is only remarkable for giving its name to one of the ſtreets. Here is a free grammar-ſchool, founded in the reign of king James the Firſt, by Richard Hale, Eſq; who endowed it with 40 l. a year, and placed it under the government of the corporation; but the maſter is appointed by Mr. Hale's heirs or repreſentatives. The houſe is a handſome ſtructure, and not many years ago was rebuilt. Here are likewiſe three charity-ſchools, one erected by the inhabitants for forty boys, who are taught and cloathed by ſubſcription; another for twenty-five children, and a third for twenty children, both taught at the expence of private perſons. This town gives the title of earl to the family of Conway; and there are ſeveral fine ſeats in its neighbourhood. The chief commodities of this town are wheat, malt, and wool; and it is ſaid, that no leſs than five thouſand quarters of malt are uſually ſent weekly to London, from this town, by the river Lea. The market is on Saturdays, and there are four fairs, which are held on the Saturday fortnight before Eaſter, the 12th of May, the 5th of July, and the 8th of November, for horſes and other cattle. It ought not to be omitted, that the town has been much hurt by turning the great northern road, which formerly led through it, through the town of Ware.

In this town was a priory of Benedictine monks, ſubordinate to the abbey of St. Alban's, built by biſhop de Limeſie, in the latter end of the reign of William the Conqueror, or the beginning of that of William Rufus, and dedicated to the Virgin Mary. It was endowed at the diſſolution with 72l. 14s. a year.

About three miles to the eaſtward of Hertford is WARE, which is thought to have derived its name from a kind of dam called a Wayre, or Wear, anciently made to ſtop the current of ſtreams, a conjecture rendered the more probable by the abundance of water here, which frequently obliged the inhabitants to make wears and ſluices to preſerve the town, and the adjoining lands, from inundations. It is ſeated in a valley on the eaſt ſide of the Lea, twenty-two miles north of London, and is one of the moſt conſiderable thoroughfares in the county, and alſo one of the beſt poſt towns on the north road. Ware was founded in the year 914 by order of Edward the Firſt, and began to increaſe in buildings, and to be of ſome note in the reign of king John, when the high road to the north, which before went through Hertford, was turned through this town by Sayer de Quincy lord of the manor. The town conſiſts of one ſtreet, about a mile long, with ſeveral back ſtreets and lanes, well inhabited. The church is large, built in the form of a croſs, and has a handſome gallery, erected by the governors of Chriſt-church hoſpital in London; but the ſchool, which was formerly for the younger children of that hoſpital, is removed to Hertford, which is thought to enjoy a purer air. There is here a charity-ſchool, and ſeven alms-houſes, well endowed. This town has been famous for its great bed, which is much viſited by travellers, it being twelve feet ſquare, and is ſaid to hold twenty people. It was kept at the

the crown, but now at the bull. There are here ſeveral good inns for the accommodation of travellers. The town has a great market for corn and malt on Tueſdays; and it is ſaid, that five thouſand quarters of malt are frequently ſent in a week to London by the barges, which generally return laden with coals. Here are alſo two fairs, held on the laſt Tueſday in April, and the Tueſday before St. Matthew's day, for horſes and other cattle.

The plenty of water about this town gave riſe to that admirable project of cutting a channel from thence, and thus forming a New River for ſupplying London with water; which, as we have already ſaid, was formed by the great Sir Hugh Middleton.

Hugo de Grentemaiſnil, lord of the town of Ware, before the year 1081, gave to the monks of St. Ebrulf, at Utica in Normandy, the church of St. Mary here, with all the tythes belonging to it, and two pieces of land, upon which it became a cell to that abbey, and was ſo well endowed, that upon the ſeizure of the alien priories, by king Edward the Third, during his war with France, this was farmed at 200 l. a year. After the ſuppreſſion of theſe foreign houſes, this was given in the third year of Henry the Fifth to the monks of Shene: king Henry the Sixth annexed it for ſome time to St. Mary's abbey near Leiceſter, but it was afterwards reſtored to Shene, and as a part of its poſſeſſions, granted by king Henry the Eighth, to Trinity college in Cambridge. In the north part of the town was an houſe of Franciſcan or grey friars.

Sir Richard Fanſhaw, an able ſtateſman and excellent poet, of the ſeventeenth century, was born in 1607 at Ware-park, near this town, and educated under the learned Thomas Farnaby, and after-

afterwards at the univerſity of Cambridge. Having completed his education by making the tour of Europe, he was, in 1635, appointed reſident at the court of Spain; and returning thence in 1641, he adhered ſteadily to the royal cauſe, and ſuffered ſeverely for his loyalty during the troubles that enſued. In 1651, he was taken priſoner at the battle of Worceſter, and committed to cloſe cuſtody in the city of London; but having obtained permiſſion, on account of the bad ſtate of his health, to go to any part of the kingdom, he retired to Tankerley-Caſtle in Yorkſhire, where he compoſed ſeveral poems, and made a good number of tranſlations. Upon the reſtoration of king Charles the Second, he was appointed maſter of requeſts, and ſecretary for the Latin tongue; and in 1662 he was ſent ambaſſador to the court of Portugal, where he negociated the marriage of his maſter with the Infanta Donna Catharina, daughter of king John the Fourth. About two years after, he went in the ſame quality to the court of Spain; and upon his arrival at Cadiz, was received with ſuch marks of honour and diſtinction, as had never been paid to any former ambaſſador. Having fully executed his commiſſion at Madrid, he was preparing to ſet out on his return for England, when being ſeized with a violent fever, he died June the 16th, 1666, the very day on which he propoſed to begin his journey. His body was brought over to England, and interred in the pariſh church of Ware, among thoſe of his anceſtors. He tranſlated into Engliſh verſe the *Paſtor Fido* of Guarini, the fourth book of Virgil's Æneis, two odes of Horace, &c. He likewiſe writ ſeveral original pieces, ſome of which have been publiſhed, and others ſtill remain in manuſcript.

At STANSTED THIEL, about two miles to the ſouth

south of Ware, Sir William de Goldington, in 1315, founded a college or chantry for a master and four secular priests at the altar of St. Mary, in the church of St. Margaret; but in 1429, William Gray, bishop of London, finding that the revenues were alienated and divine service neglected, he obtained the king's leave to dissolve this college, and annex all its possessions to the priory of Elsing Spittle in London; from which house were afterwards sent two regular canons to reside here, and perform divine service.

In LEMMON Field near Westmill, or Wadesmill, not far from Ware, three Roman wine vessels were dug up in the year 1729. They were of a pale reddish earth, and in form resembled the Roman Amphora, with two handles, and pointed at the bottom, in order to fix them in the ground. These vessels were eighteen inches below the surface, and filled with earth and chalk-stones of the neighbouring soil. Many human bodies have been dug up near this place, but though the ground around them was black, they did not seem to have been burnt, but by their shallow burial, appeared to have been left there after a battle. At Roundwood near Westmill, is about an acre of ground entrenched; as there is also at Campwood, not far distant.

Seven miles north of Ware, and at a small distance to the east of the great north road, is STANDON, a small town, situated seven miles west of Stortford, and twenty-nine north of London. The church is seated near the town, and has three isles, but the tower stands at a little distance from the east end of the south isle. This town has a market on Fridays, but no fairs.

Gilbert de Clare having given the church of Standon, with his vineyard and a hundred and forty acres of land, in the reign of king Stephen,

to

to the knights hospitalers, here was a preceptory or place of residence for some of the sisters of that order, till they were all collected together in 1180 at Buckland in Somersetshire.

In this parish was also an hermitage founded by William, an anchorate, which Richard de Clare, earl of Hertford, gave to his monks of Stoke, in the county of Suffolk, in the reign of king Henry the First, who are said to have a cell here, which in after-times appears to have been a secular free chapel.

At ROWNEY, a village near Standon, Conan, duke of Britain and earl of Richmond, founded a nunnery of the order of St. Benedict, dedicated to St. John the Baptist, about the tenth year of Henry the Second, but in the reign of Henry the Sixth, the revenues were so wasted, that they were not then sufficient to keep the buildings in repair, and to support the prioress and convent; they therefore resigned them into the hands of John Fray their patron, lord chief baron of the Exchequer; upon which, he, with the king's licence, appropriated the lands to the maintenance of a chantry priest, who continued till the dissolution, when the hospital or free chapel was valued at 13l. 10s. 9d. a year.

We shall now leave the north road to visit STORTFORD, or BISHOP'S STORTFORD, which is situated seven miles to the eastward of Standon, and thirty-one north-north-east of London. This was in Camden's time a small town, but it is now considerably improved, it being a thoroughfare to Cambridge and New Market, and has several convenient inns. It received its name from the ford or passage over the river Stort, which runs at the bottom of the town, and the addition of bishop is given to it, from its belonging to the bishops of London. The town is built

in

in the form of a croſs, the four ſtreets facing the cardinal points. There is here a flouriſhing ſchool, with a large handſome ſchool-houſe, which was built not many years ago, and is an ornament to the town. A caſtle was built here by William the Conqueror ſoon after he obtained the crown of England, upon a ſmall ſteep artificial hill, to defend and protect the trade of the town, and alſo to keep the people in ſubjection. It was kept up by the biſhops of London till about the ninth year of the reign of king John, who, upon account of an interdict from the pope, cauſed the caſtle to be demoliſhed, but he made the town a borough, authorizing the inhabitants to chooſe its own officers, and ſend members to parliament; but it has long loſt theſe privileges. The biſhop of London appoints a bailiff here for what is called his liberty; and to him are directed ſheriffs warrants, to be executed in this and ſeveral of the neighbouring pariſhes. The bailiff has here a right to ſtrays, and the toll of corn and cattle in its market and fairs. The biſhop holds his courts-leet and baron at the manor of Padmore, at the north end of the town. The church ſtands on a hill in the midſt of the place, and has a handſome tower, a ſpire fifty feet high covered with lead, and a fine ring of eight bells. It had an organ ſo long ago as the reign of Henry the Seventh, and is thought to be very ancient, becauſe in one of the windows were the names and pictures of king Athelſtan, St. Edward, and king Edward. Here is a grammar-ſchool, built about half a century ago by the contribution of the gentry, both of this county and of Eſſex: it ſtands in the High ſtreet upon arches, under which are ſhops and a market: it fronts the church-yard, and conſiſts of three rooms; the front to the ſtreet is the grammar-ſchool, and the two wings are the writing-

writing-school and library, to which every scholar gives a book on his leaving the school. Here are also two alms-houses. The town has a market on Thursdays, and three fairs, on Holy-Thursday, the Thursday after Trinity-Sunday, and on the 10th of October, for horses and other cattle.

SAWBRIDGEWORTH, or SABRIDGWORTH, commonly called Sapsford, is said to take its name from the lord Say, who anciently owned this manor. It is situated three miles south of Bishop's Stortford, and in the reign of king Edward, the inhabitants obtained a charter for a weekly market, which is held on Wednesdays; and for two fairs, on the 23d of April, and the 19th of October, for horses. In the church were monks about the latter end of the reign of king Henry the First, or in that of king Stephen.

Returning back into the great north road near Standon, we shall proceed from thence to PUCKERIDGE, which is only a hamlet, seated in the road a little to the north of Standon; but has several good inns for the entertainment of travellers. Here in the reign of king Edward the Second was a free chapel, in which was a chantry.

Proceeding northward from thence, you come to BUNTINGFORD, a good thoroughfare town on the road from Ware to Royston, situated at the ford of a little river called the Rib, at the distance of thirty-two miles from London. It is situated upon the Roman road called Erminstreet, and has a market on Mondays, with two fairs, one held on the 29th of June, and the other on the 30th of November, for pedlars ware. This town stands in four parishes, to one of which called Layston, it is a chapelry. The chapel is a handsome brick structure, finished in 1626. Doctor Seth Ward, bishop of Sarum, who was brought up at the free-

free-school here, gave four scholarships of twelve pounds a year to Christ's college in Cambridge, to be enjoyed by four scholars, natives of Hertfordshire, educated at this school, till they are masters of arts. He also founded and endowed a sumptuous alms-house for four ancient men, and as many ancient women, who, from a state of affluence, were reduced by misfortunes to poverty.

The above Dr. Seth Ward, who was a learned divine, a good mathematician, and a worthy prelate in the seventeenth century, was born here, and had his education at the school of his native place, and at Sidney college in Cambridge, of which he became a fellow. In the beginning of the civil wars he adhered to his majesty; but he afterwards sided with the men then in power, and was appointed Savilian professor of Astronomy, and president of Trinity-college in Oxford. Both these places, however, he lost at the restoration; but he was soon after presented by king Charles the Second to the vicarage of St. Lawrence Jewry in London. In 1662 he was advanced to the bishopric of Exeter, and about five years after was translated to that of Salisbury, where he founded *The College of Matrons*, for the maintenance of ten clergymens widows. He likewise, as hath been already observed, established a charitable foundation at his native town of Buntingford. He might, if he had pleased, have been translated to the rich see of Durham; but he thought proper to decline it. Towards the latter end of his life he lost the use of his reason; and dying January 6, 1689, was interred in the cathedral of Salisbury. His works, which are partly philosophical, partly mathematical, and partly theological, were published at different times, and in different forms.

On returning into the great north road, which we left at Buntingford, we ſhall proceed northward to BARKWAY, which is thirty-five miles north of London; and being a conſiderable thoroughfare in the north road, has ſeveral good inns, and is a populous flouriſhing town. It has a church, in which are ſeveral handſome monuments, and a chapel of eaſe, called Northamſted, about a mile from it, to which the vicars are inducted with the church. It has a market on Saturdays, and a fair on the 20th of July, for pedlars ware.

At BIGGING, or GIGGING, near this town, was an old priory or hoſpital, dedicated to the Virgin Mary, for a maſter, chaplains, and ſeveral poor people.

From hence a road proceeds to ROYSTON, which is ſituated partly in Cambridgeſhire, and partly in this county, and which we have already deſcribed in treating of Cambridgeſhire.

We ſhall now enter the north road, which leads from Barnet through Hatfield to Stevenage and Baldock.

HATFIELD, or BISHOPS HATFIELD, was originally called Heathfield, from its being ſituated on a barren heath, and was diſtinguiſhed by the name of Biſhops Heathfield, from its belonging to the biſhops of Ely. It ſtands on the north road, about the diſtance of twenty miles from London, and had once a royal palace, in which Edward the Sixth received his education, and from whence both that prince and queen Elizabeth were conducted to the throne. The church is a rectory in the gift of the earl of Saliſbury, who is now in poſſeſſion of the palace. It is in the form of a croſs, and has a handſome tower ſteeple, and ſeveral monuments. Here are two charity-ſchools, and a market, which is kept on Thurſdays, with two

two fairs, which are held on the 23d of April, and the 18th of October, for toys.

From hence the road extends north to STEVENAGE, which is alſo ſeated in the road from London to York, at the diſtance of thirty-two miles from London. The church is built upon a hill, from whence it is ſuppoſed to have received its name, it being at firſt called Stevenhaught. The ſpire of this ſtructure is large, and covered with lead, and has a ring of ſix bells. Here is a free-ſchool, an hoſpital, called All Chriſtian Souls Houſe, and other charitable foundations. It has a market on Fridays, and four fairs, namely, on the ninth day before Eaſter, on the ninth day before Whitſuntide, on the 15th of July, and the firſt Friday in September, for hawkers, pedlars, and a little cheeſe.

On the ſouth ſide of Stevenage near the road are certain hills, thrown up in the ſame form, as thoſe which the Romans uſually raiſed for ſoldiers ſlain in battle; but ſome think, they were done by the Danes, becauſe not far from them, there is a place called Danes-End. Norden informs us, that the incurſions of the Danes were ſtopped here, by their receiving a remarkable overthrow.

About three miles to the ſouth-eaſt of Stevenage is BENNINGTON, which takes its name from the river Bean on which it ſtands. Here Berdulfe, king of the Mercians, had a palace, where he often reſided. It paſſed through ſeveral hands, but was at length entirely demoliſhed. John de Benſted obtained a grant for a court-leet, a market on Wedneſdays, and a fair to be held in this place; but the market is diſcontinued, tho' the fair is ſtill kept on the 29th of June, for pedlars ware.

We ſhall now return to Stevenage, from whence

whence a road extends northward to Baldock, and north-weſt to Hitchin.

BALDOCK is ſeated between two hills in a chalky ſoil, thirty-eight miles north of London, and is moſt remarkable for the number of malſters that live here. It is a pretty large town, and in the middle of it is a handſome church, with three chancels and a fine tower, in which is an excellent ring of ſix bells. Among other conſiderable benefactions to the poor of this place, Sir John Winne gave 1100l. to build ſix alms-houſes, and purchaſe lands to raiſe an annuity of 40 s. each for every poor perſon ſettled in them. The market, which is held on Thurſdays, is very conſiderable both for corn and malt; and there are here five fairs, which are held on the Wedneſday after the 24th of February, on the laſt Thurſday in May, on the 6th of Auguſt, the 2d of October, and the 11th of December, which are all conſiderable for cheeſe, houſhold goods and cattle.

Four miles to the north-eaſt of Baldock, and out of the road, is ASHWELL, which is a handſome place, ſeated on the very edge of the county, on the banks of the river Rhee, which proceeds from ſeveral ſprings that iſſue out of a rock at the ſouth end of the town. By ancient records it appears, that this place was once a ſmall borough, and had a market, with four fairs, but at preſent it has neither. The church is a handſome ſtructure, with a fine tower, and a lofty ſpire; and in it are ſome remarkable tombs. Several ſmall donations have been given to the poor of this place. Upon a hill in Harborough-field, in this pariſh, are evident marks of a Roman fortification, it being a large ſquare work, conſiſting of twelve acres, encloſed with a trench or rampart, and Roman coins are frequently dug up there. This is thought

to

to be one of the Caſtra Exploratorum of the Romans.

Between CALDECOT and HINXWORTH, two villages near Aſhwell, on the borders of Cambridgeſhire, ſeveral Roman antiquities were diſcovered in the year 1724, particularly urns full of aſhes and burnt bones; ſeveral human ſkeletons, not more than a foot below the ſurface of the earth, with a braſs tribulus, glaſs lachrymatories, ſix ſmall glaſſes, pateras of fine red earth, and ſome other things.

Five miles ſouth-weſt of Baldock is HITCHIN, or HITCHING, ſaid to be a corruption of Hitchend, which the town was originally called, from its ſituation at the end of a wood, named Hitchwood, which does not now reach ſo far as the town. It is ſeated in a pleaſant valley, fourteen miles north of St. Alban's, and thirty-five north-north-weſt of London. The church, which ſtands in the middle of the town, is a handſome ſtructure, a hundred and fifty-three feet long, and ſixty-ſeven broad, with three chancels, and a tower twenty-one feet ſquare, in which is a ring of ſix bells. The town is governed by a bailiff, and four conſtables, two for the town, and two for the out-parts; and is divided into the three wards of Tilthouſe, Bridge and Bancroft; and is thought to be the ſecond town in the county for the number of houſes and inhabitants. It has a free-ſchool, a charity-ſchool, and eight alms-houſes. Conſiderable quantities of malt are made in the town, and it has a great market on Tueſdays for all ſorts of grain. It has likewiſe three fairs, held on the 2d of April, the 30th of May, and the 12th of October, for a few cattle. Near the town is found a ſtony ſort of marle, which, tho' by itſelf, is fitter for lime than manure, yet when mixed with

with a ſofter marle, that alſo abounds here, greatly enriches the land.

On a piece of land, called New Bigging, near a church in Hitchin, was a ſmall priory, endowed at the ſuppreſſion with 131. 16s. a year, but is now converted into a ſchool-houſe; and at the end of the town was a houſe of friars Carmelites, founded by king Edward the Second, about the year 1316, and dedicated to the Virgin Mary; but at the general ſuppreſſion it was valued at no more than 41. 9s. 4d. a year.

The manor of WIMLEY, or WIMONDLEY MAGNA near Hitchin, is held by the lord, upon condition that on the coronation-day, he performs the office of cup-bearer to his ſovereign: the cup, which conſiſts of ſilver gilt, is returned to the cup-bearer, as the fee of his office; and this has been appendant to this manor ever ſince the conqueſt.

At HEXTON, about four miles weſt of Hitchin, on the borders of Bedfordſhire, is a ſtrong oval camp ſituated on a hill, near which, on another hill, is a barrow or mount, and near this place a battle was fought between the Danes and Edward the Elder.

RAVENSBOROUGH Caſtle, at a ſmall diſtance to the ſouth of Hexton, is an oblong camp that extends about ſixteen acres, with an entire fortification, and ſo well defended by nature, that a thouſand men might keep it againſt all the force of a great army.

Beſides the extraordinary perſons already mentioned, as being born in ſeveral towns of this county, it has produced the following.

Edmund Gunter, an excellent mathematician, and profeſſor of aſtronomy in Greſham college, was born in Hertfordſhire in 1581, and educated at Weſtminſter-ſchool, and Chriſt-church college in

in Oxford. He entered into holy orders, and took the degree of bachelor in divinity; but his favourite ſtudy was mathematics, in which he made a prodigious progreſs. He was the inventor of ſeveral inſtruments of great uſe in the practical parts of that ſcience; and made the new projection of the ſector, which from him is called Gunter's ſcale, of both which he gave a large deſcription. He likewiſe made that capital diſcovery in magnetiſm; *that the variation of the needle varies*; i. e. that it is not always the ſame in the ſame place. He died at his apartments in Greſham college, December the 10th, 1626, in the forty-fifth year of his age.

Edmund Waller, a celebrated Lyric poet, was born March the 3d, 1605, at Coleſhill in Hertfordſhire. Being little more than an infant at the death of his father, who left him an eſtate of 3500l. per annum, he was carefully educated at Eton-ſchool, and at King's college in Cambridge. Here he made ſuch a rapid progreſs in his ſtudies, that by the time he had attained to the ſixteenth year of his age, he was judged fit for a ſeat in the great council of the nation; and accordingly was choſen member of the lower houſe, in the third parliament of king James the Firſt. In little more than two years after he wrote his poem upon the danger, which prince Charles (afterwards king Charles the Firſt) eſcaped in the road of St. Andere, in his return from Spain. He from thenceforward became the favourite poet of the times. Becoming a widower, in the twenty-fifth year of his age, by the death of his firſt wife, the daughter of a London merchant, he conceived a moſt ardent paſſion for the eldeſt daughter of the earl of Leiceſter, the lady Dorothy Sidney, whom he has immortalized under the feigned name of *Sachariſſa*; but all his addreſſes were rejected by

by the lady, on which being reduced to deſpair, he quitted his native country; and upon his return to it, was choſen member of the long parliament in 1640. Here his connection with the famous patriot Hampden, to whom he was nephew, induced him to concur in the meaſures of the parliament; but he ſoon after eſpouſed the royal cauſe, and even entered into a plot for delivering up the city of London to his majeſty. This plot was, however, diſcovered; and Mr. Waller, after being in the moſt imminent danger of a capital puniſhment, was condemned in a fine of 10,000 l. and obliged to go into perpetual exile. He returned, nevertheleſs, in a few years, and ſubmitting to the ruling powers, became a diſtinguiſhed favourite of the protector Oliver Cromwell, and wrote three fine poems upon that uſurper. Upon the reſtoration of king Charles the Second, he was taken into favour; and wrote a copy of verſes on that occaſion. The king obſerving to him, that *he thought them much inferior to his panegyric on Cromwell: Sir*, ſaid Mr. Waller, *We poets never ſucceed ſo well in writing truth, as in fiction.* He continued thenceforward, to the day of his death, to entertain the public with the productions of his Muſe, and the Houſe of Commons with his eloquence; for he was a no leſs excellent orator than poet. He died October the 21ſt, 1687. His works have been frequently publiſhed; and though remarkable rather for wit and elegance, than for force and vigour, are ſtill admired.

END of the FOURTH VOLUME.